

Lawson's big spending hints at early poll

By Rodney Lord Economics Editor
Big increases in the Government's spending plans and a buoyant economic outlook were announced yesterday by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson.

THE MAIN POINTS
Public spending plans for next year to total £148.6bn, £4.7bn more than announced at the time of the Budget.

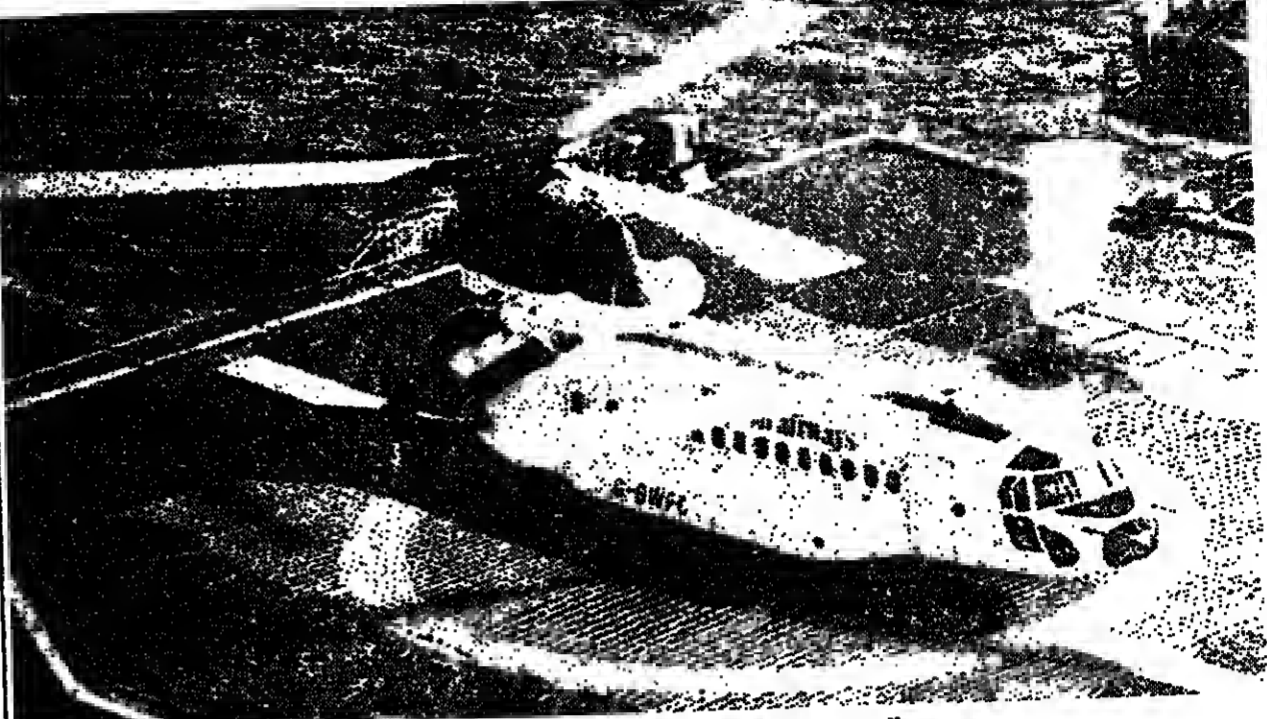
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U-turn delights Tory wets

By Robin Oakley Political Editor

The Government yesterday ran up the surrender flag in the face of demands from spending ministers which it had become politically impossible to refuse.

45 men killed in Britain's worst helicopter disaster

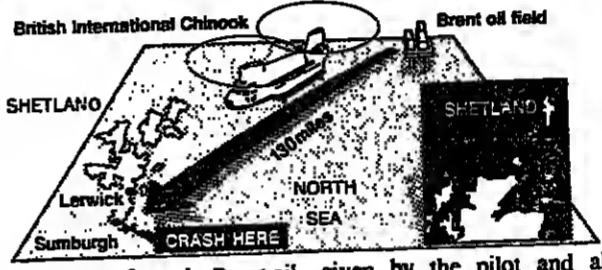


The doomed helicopter in its former British Airways livery.

Crash without warning

By Harvey Elliott Air Correspondent

Forty-five men died yesterday in Britain's worst helicopter disaster. A Boeing 234 twin rotor helicopter smashed without warning into the sea two miles off Sumburgh in Shetland and sank within minutes.



Survivors owe lives to chance

The two known survivors of Britain's worst helicopter crash owe their lives to a chance in a million coincidence.

Aviation minister rushes to scene

Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, promised in the Commons a thorough inquiry into the cause of the Chinook helicopter crash.

In a statement, Mr Moore said an investigation team had already left for the scene, with the Aviation Minister, Mr Michael Spicer.

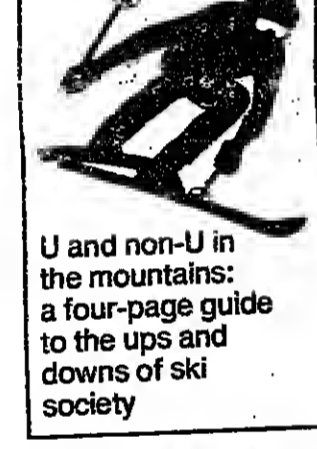
Emergency inquiry into ways to curb Aids

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter
An emergency parliamentary inquiry has been launched into the growing Aids crisis.

The inquiry will question ministers and leading health experts, and is to examine even the most unpalatable options for containing the disease.

Tomorrow

Slopes to be seen on
U and non-U in the mountains: a four-page guide to the ups and downs of ski society



Portfolio

Yesterday's £8,000 prize in The Times Portfolio Gold competition, double the usual amount as there was no winner on Wednesday, was won by Mrs Mavis Johnson, of Wollaton, Nottingham. Details, page 3.

Times ban ended by 2 councils

By Staff Reporters
Two of the three Labour-controlled councils ordered by the High Court on Wednesday to end their banning of public libraries of The Times and other News International titles moved to comply with the order yesterday.

Russia accuses US of arms 'retreat'

From Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent, Vienna
The Vienna follow-up to the Reykjavik summit ended yesterday without progress after five hours of talks during two meetings between Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

Judge jails rape victim for contempt

By Frances Gibb Legal Affairs Correspondent
An alleged rape victim was jailed for a day yesterday by a judge at the Central Criminal Court after she refused to give evidence at a trial.

Manchester United look to Ferguson

Alex Ferguson, the former Scotland and Aberdeen manager, is expected to take over as the manager of Manchester United following the dismissal yesterday of Ron Atkinson.

Aviation minister rushes to scene

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Pound up in hope of high rates

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent
The pound reacted favourably to the Chancellor's statement, buoyed by the expectation that the Government's decision to boost public spending would keep interest rates high.

It rose 1.1 cents to \$1.4340, and the sterling index was up 0.4 to 69.5. Interest rates in the money markets finished higher in response to the statement. In New York the pound slipped to \$1.4285 in early trading.



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NEWS SUMMARY

Drink-drive test option continues

Motorists suspected of drink-driving are to continue to have the right to take a blood or urine test, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, announced last night...

Appeal on MI5 gag

Two national newspapers were yesterday given leave to appeal to the House of Lords against an injunction limiting their freedom to publish allegations of "criminal misconduct" in the Secret Service.

IBA cuts radio fees

The Independent Broadcasting Authority yesterday announced a cut of at least 26 per cent in the fees it charges Britain's 52 independent local radio stations.

Nurse is leader

Mr Hector Mackenzie, a qualified nurse, yesterday became general secretary of the 212,000-strong Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cohse).

Open case ruling

An arthritis sufferer who is suing for damages over alleged side-effects from the drug, Open, cannot have her own observer present when she is examined by the manufacturer's medical expert, a High Court judge ruled yesterday.

Jockey's drink ban

Walter Swinburn, the leading jockey, crashed his Mercedes car into a lamp post while trying to do up his seat belt, Newmarket Magistrates' Court was told yesterday.

'Racism' case fails

Caunden council has failed in its attempt to evict a tenant, whose sons allegedly carried out a racist hate campaign against an Asian family.

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EEC law expert questions water sale

could properly designate as "competent authorities". In EEC terms, they had to be "governmental" and act "free from the pressure of shareholders or other private interests".

Helicopter safety

Regulations tightened after crash in Scillies

Specific safety improvements for helicopters were recommended in a Civil Aviation Authority report two years ago after a British Airways Sikorsky crashed into the sea off the Scilly Isles killing 20 people.

the High Court for a declaration against the Attorney General on the question of conformity to EEC law. This, in turn, would almost certainly lead to a reference to the European Court of Justice for a ruling which could take up to a year to emerge.



Mr Simon Roe, of Fulham, reading one of the first copies of The Times available at the Fulham Public Library after the High Court ruling (Photograph: Peter Trivener).

The Times back in libraries

Continued from Page 1 decision in more detail at our next meeting but in the meantime there is no question of us not complying with it.

1,000 wish to accept the Wapping offer

News International has received 1,000 inquiries from former members of staff who wish to accept the company's offer of compensation made last Friday.

Cash plea for babies of rape victims

A fixed award of £5,000 for rape victims, who keep a child born as a result of the offence, is suggested in the report of an inter-departmental working party on the workings of the criminal injuries compensation scheme, published yesterday.

The money would be in recognition of the special difficulties faced by women in that position. The report said that, wherever possible, the offender should be made to pay the cost of such compensation.

One of the most important aspects of the statutory scheme is that compensation will no longer be awarded on an ex gratia basis. Anyone who satisfies the conditions for payment of compensation "will have a legal and enforceable right to compensation".

Detective cleared of conspiracy

A detective accused of teaming up with an underworld informer to plot an armed robbery was cleared of conspiracy to rob at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday.

Ruskin talks today on Times columnist

The case of Mr David Selbourne, the Ruskin College lecturer boycotted by his students for writing an article for The Times, reaches a crucial stage today when the college's annual meeting is convened to discuss his future.



Reactor to shut down

One of two nuclear reactors at Hinkley Point A atomic power station will be closed before the end of the year for a safety inspection of two standpipes which have shown signs of corrosion.

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Hospices must accept the challenge of Aids victims, says Runcie

By Jill Sherman

The Archbishop of Canterbury has challenged the hospice movement to face up to the problems of caring for terminally ill patients with Aids.

"I am sure this is something the hospice movement will be facing. I am sure they will face it as sensitively and courageously as they have faced other challenges."

Saunders, has said that hospice accommodation provided by the movement is not always practical for Aids patients, many of whom need intensive medical care.

Aids screening is called 'senseless'

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Any plans by Britain or other countries to screen foreign visitors for signs of Aids infection would be "senseless and ineffective", the World Health Organization's leading expert on the disease said yesterday.

"We have to assume that when this is done, it is done for a more political or symbolic purpose. It does not work to prevent transmission of this international disease."

They would also need to look at improving training of both teachers and volunteers and strengthen and expand existing links between voluntary hospices and the National Health Service.

Dr Jonathan Mann said the organization was strongly opposed to such moves but issued a warning that some countries might introduce screening of foreigners for political or symbolic reasons.

Government ministers and senior health officials in Britain have discussed the possibility of screening overseas visitors for signs of Aids infection, but the proposal is being rejected.

Mr John Major, Minister for Social Security, addressing the conference, provided little assurance that present problems covering attendance allowances and individual care allowances for the terminally ill and their carers would be sorted out soon.

Detective denies allegations

By Stewart Tensler, Crime Reporter

A senior Scotland Yard detective yesterday criticized Labour MPs for hiding behind parliamentary privilege to accuse him of corruption and claimed attacks against him were a repetition of malicious and unfounded allegations.

Brent appeal on head next week

By Staff Reporters

The appeal by Brent council in north London against a High Court ruling on disciplinary action against Miss Maureen McGoldrick, the head teacher accused of making a racist remark, has been brought forward to Monday.

Solicitors support reforms

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Proposals for abolishing the restrictions on solicitors' rights to appear as advocates in some courts have won overwhelming backing from among local law societies, solicitors and legal academics.

Publicity on teachers' pay offer defended

By Staff Reporters

The Department of Education and Science yesterday defended its decision to mount a £300,000 publicity campaign in all national newspapers, setting out the details of Mr Kenneth Baker's proposals on teachers' pay.

Backing for instruction on homosexuals

By Staff Reporters

More than a third of secondary school teachers accept that homosexuality should be presented as an acceptable way of living, according to a new poll.

Getty rescues Dam Buster's medals

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The medals were scheduled for sale at Sotheby's yesterday afternoon with an estimate of £1,400-£1,600 on them. Mr Getty reached for the phone and spoke to Sotheby's.



Lord Blandford (left) leaving court with his parents (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

Blandford gets final chance

Lord Blandford was yesterday given a two-year suspended prison sentence for possessing cocaine.

He was also ordered to pay £2,800 costs and put under a two-year supervision order.

At one stage he was spending £300 a day on heroin, but after being arrested at the end of last year he started working hard at kicking his lethal habit.

Thatcher keeps out of battle with BBC

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister refused yesterday to be drawn into the row between Mr Norman Tebbit and the BBC, as Mr Neil Kinnock and Mr James Callaghan, the former Labour prime minister, led an opposition onslaught in the Commons.

Portfolio - Gold - Chance of a holiday for family

A housewife is the sole winner of yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000.



Mrs Johnson was shocked but happy to win.

Mr Kinnock said that the BBC governors had now convincingly rebutted 39 of the 40 charges made by Mr Tebbit, whom he accused of blatant and obvious coercion.

Welsh public house is best restaurant

A Welsh public house which has served first class Italian food for the past 23 years is the Egon Ronay Cellnet Restaurant of the Year.

Saint or Singer?

Mortimer quotes Geldof's anarchic lyrics back at him to see how he reconciles them with the achievement of Live Aid. And, looking at his future in rock music, prompts Geldof's own question, "Is that it?" Also in this week's Spectator, Stephen Robinson reveals how the Conservatives sowed the seed for much of the chaos in Brent's schools. Our Fine Arts special issue stretches from Rodin through grottoes to the auction rooms. And Alexander Chancellor recalls how his sister's 200 word solution to the Suez Crisis took him to Jamaica. The Spectator - the only solution - for only a pound.

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FINANCIAL WEEKLY, 8 MAY 1986

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POLICY MARKET, DECEMBER 1985

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MONEY OBSERVER, MAY 1986

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FINANCIAL TIMES, 10 MARCH 1986

If you want to buy a life assurance policy, here are a few words of advice.

Financial quotes only give some idea of how well an insurance company will invest your money.

You'd be far better off using quotes from independent sources to guide you.

Study any of these and you'll find that Scottish Amicable is one of the best life assurance companies in Britain.

We've got a terrific investment record.

And unlike some of our competitors, we've proved that we can provide great returns for all kinds of policies - whether they're endowments for mortgages, pensions or savings plans.

We think you'll be hard pressed to find a better life assurance company.

And any independent financial adviser will probably tell you so. If you don't believe everything you read in the papers.



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MPs outraged over rebuff on ethnic number in services

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Ministry of Defence has refused to supply a Commons select committee with details of how many blacks and Asians there are in certain units of the Armed Forces.

The refusal was contained in a letter sent to the committee on Wednesday, the same day that Mr Roger Freeman, the Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, announced that ethnic monitoring of recruits is to be introduced next year.

The ministry is on a direct collision course with the Select Committee on Defence, which will discuss what action to take at a meeting next week. Options include a formal demand for the information or "inviting" ministry officials to appear before the committee for questioning.

The ministry explained its refusal by saying that the statistics required do not exist. This has cut little ice with certain committee members, however, who said yesterday that the request, covering no more than 10 named units, had been made last July and that "they could have bloody well gone out and counted".

The committee is also keen to discover what promotion prospects blacks and Asians enjoy within the Armed Forces, and pointed out that this will not be disclosed by the monitoring announced by Mr Freeman.

One MP on the committee said that "considerable irritation" had been caused by the refusal.

He said: "I would be very surprised if the committee lets the matter lie here. This committee has a long history when it wants information of not being fobbed off. It is tenacious like."

The committee asked for information on ethnic minority representation in the Armed Forces after suggestions earlier this year that blacks or Asians may be encouraged to join less fashionable branches of the Army, and the reported observation of the Prince of Wales that there were few black faces beneath the bearskins of the Guards' regiments.



Nearly 150 years ago, Welsh schoolchildren like these would already have been working underground as miners alongside their parents for a penny a day to augment the family income. Ironstone miners were paid by the ton and every extra nugget helped.

Wage rules 'could cost 600,000 jobs'

By Tim Jones

A Cabinet minister said yesterday that Britain could lose up to 600,000 jobs if left-wing Euro MPs succeed in their attempt to force governments to impose minimum standards of wages and social security within the Community.

The warning from Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Employment, came a day after Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, was harracked for telling union leaders that national wage deals were costing jobs.

Mr Clarke, a president of the Labour and Social Affairs Ministers, said the proposals by the Euro Labour groupings would do nothing to help employment in Britain. "No one really knows exactly how many jobs would be lost but it would certainly be a few hundred thousand and possibly as many as 600,000", he said.

The Labour groupings will try to force governments to adopt agreed standards on pay and benefits when the European Parliament meets next week.

In spite of mounting a strong rearguard action, Conservatives believe they will lose the vote to the socialists, who cling to entrenched positions which favour trade union power.

Tuckman, a Conservative spokesman on employment, which argued that Europe had to earn its living before it could distribute wealth, was also watered down.

Even if they win the vote next week, it is unlikely that employment ministers meeting next month will adopt the proposals. With huge anomalies such as a German worker earning in a month what a Portuguese worker earns in a year, a universal wage and social services policy would be too expensive to administer.

Libya jets grounded for lack of pilots

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Libya is unable to use two sophisticated jet planes after failing to recruit British pilots to fly them.

Now Libyan Arab airlines may have to try to sell the Airbus A310s it bought last year for more than £75 million.

Libya had been trying to buy Airbus jets to replace its ageing fleet for years, but an embargo on the sale of any American equipment to Libya closed supply routes.

So the Libyans mounted a complicated international undercover operation to buy two Airbus from British Caledonian, who thought the aircraft were going to a European charter organization.

The Libyans planned to use the planes for international services by the end of this year, but they had no maintenance facilities, no simulator to train engineers and pilots and no spare parts.

Advertisements appeared in technical and specialist magazines around the world for pilots and engineers, offering up to £40,000 a year tax free for anyone prepared to fly the Airbus. But so far there have been no takers.

The Department of Transport denied putting pressure on British staff.

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Bishop critical of justice for blacks

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Britain's first black bishop yesterday called for strong measures to eradicate racism from the criminal justice system.

The Bishop of Cropton, the Rt Rev Dr Wilfred Wood, said a wide-ranging anti-racist strategy was necessary if black people were to have confidence in the system.

He told the annual meeting of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders the proportion of black people in prison was more than double the proportion in the community. Black people entering prison also had fewer previous convictions than whites sentenced for similar offences.

Black defendants were significantly less likely to be granted bail than whites charged with the same types of crime, he said.

Decisions taken early in the law enforcement process contributed to the number of black people in prison. Young black people were stopped and searched by the police roughly 10 times as often as whites. Young black offenders in London were significantly more likely to be prosecuted and less likely to be cautioned than comparable whites.

There are numbers of people who feel that the law does nothing to protect their rights to decent housing and fair opportunities for suitable employment. Many seem to have nothing to gain from the 'order' of society and nothing to lose by flouting it."

He called for personnel to be trained in working in a multi-ethnic society and for a more positive approach to the recruiting of black judges, magistrates, court clerks, lawyers and probation officers, as well as police officers.

There were only three black judges, fewer than 2 per cent of probation staff were black, and in most areas the percentage of black magistrates was less than half the proportion of black people in the local population.

Maxwell denies he brings fear

Mr Robert Maxwell, publisher of the *Daily Mirror*, denied a suggestion in court yesterday that his reputation inspired fear and apprehension rather than respect.

He was being cross-examined on the fourth day of his High Court libel action against *Private Eye*, which is seeking to justify its allegation that he acted as "paymaster" for overseas trips by Mr Neil Kinnock, the leader of the Labour Party, in an attempt to be recommended for a peerage.

Mr Andrew Bateson, QC, for *Private Eye*, asked him: "Would you agree that your reputation is one of a man who inspires fear and apprehension rather than respect?"

"I would not agree," Mr Maxwell, who is chairman of *Mirror Group Newspapers*, said.

Mr Maxwell, aged 63, said that he was "appalled and shocked" at the "cruel and wicked" allegations against him by *Private Eye*. He said that they had not sought to justify the allegations.

In cross-examination he denied threatening Mr Kinnock that if he did not attend an anniversary party at the *Daily Mirror* the paper would not cover his African tour.

The magazine denies libel and claims that they published what they published over a *Daily Mirror* article last July which labelled them "The Public Lie".

In his opening speech to the jury, Mr Bateson said: "It is part of my clients' case that Mr Maxwell has a generally bad reputation and is an ambitious self-publicist and a bully."

The hearing continues.

Yard drive on street crime

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard is to use undercover police patrols and surveillance operations to combat street crime in five inner city areas of London.

The decision to allocate more resources to fight street crime was taken this week at a two-day conference of the Yard's top officers.

They have identified Lambeth, Southwark, Hackney and parts of Haringey and Brent as areas of concern.

Local commanders are to use members of the newly-formed tactical support units, which come into operation in January as riot teams, to mount a plainclothes operation. They will monitor places which attract street crime, such as lonely alleys and underpasses.

Detectives will also be added to local intelligence units to target suspects with established records for street crime.

The concentration on street crime comes at a time when the Yard is considering greater use of civilian staff as one way of using its stretched police manpower. The police staff of the computerized information room, which handles London's 999 calls, could be replaced by civilian operators, who might also take over the manning of the computerized command centres at divisional police stations.

The Metropolitan Police is continuing to fail to meet its establishment level, because of natural wastage and officers leaving the force, often to transfer to other parts of the country.

Print leaders face fine

Two print union leaders at the *Mirror* Group were warned by a High Court judge in London yesterday that they faced "substantial" fines and possible suspended jail sentences after he had found them guilty of contempt of court.

Mr Justice Mars-Jones said he will give his decision today on what penalty to impose on Mr Thomas Harrison, father (chairman) of *Mirror Group Newspapers* graphics chapel (office branch), and his deputy, Mr Laurence Wells.

The judge ruled that the two were guilty of a "flagrant" breach of an injunction granted to the *Mirror* Group by holding a chapel meeting on September 19 which halted production of the *Daily Mirror*.

But the judge acquitted the National Graphical Association of contempt because he was not satisfied that the officials were acting as "duly authorized agents" of the NGA in calling the meeting.

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Ridley backs free market to increase rented housing

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Radical changes in the rented housing sector, including higher rents for council housing and moves towards deregulation of the private rented market, were hinted at yesterday by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Mr Ridley, the Cabinet's keenest exponent of privatization and leading enthusiast of the free market, spoke of his ideal for the rented sector as being "a pretty complete market, where people can move freely from one part of the country to another, from bigger to smaller accommodation, and to pay the

appropriate rent for whatever they choose to rent".

He made clear, in an interview with *New Society* magazine, that he believes council rents are too low.

"The average local authority rent is £16 a week. We think the economic cost of those houses is £28 a week, and the private sector would need to let that house at £30 a week if a good landlord, with ordinary finance, is even going to cover his costs, let alone much of an element for profit."

He said that rent levels in the public and private made his desired expansion of the private sector more difficult to

achieve, and he foreshadowed changes on security of tenure for new lettings in the private sector.

Many of the ideas floated by Mr Ridley in his interview, and other equally far-reaching ones, are on the agenda for the secret Conservative manifesto group on housing, which Mr Ridley chairs.

He is understood to want to go further and faster towards a completely free market in housing than Mr John Patten, Minister for Housing.

On rent control, Mr Ridley said: "There are grave problems in dismantling it for existing tenants because of habits and history. People

have got into the habit of thinking they have got their tenancies for life, they have built their lives round that.

"Whether they should have had them in the first place is a totally separate question, but the vast amount of political upheaval and upset involved in taking away those rights is pretty daunting."

He adds, however: "But you can certainly do this for new lettings."

He said that control on rent was the biggest block on the provision of more private housing because it simply was not economic at existing fair rent levels to provide a house.

The security of tenure problem was much more for the private individual who had a few properties to let and found that, when something went wrong in his life, his asset was unrealizable.

Mr Ridley said: "So one has the choice between going the whole hog and doing away with both of them, or dealing with the rent problem alone. I do not think that dealing with the security of tenure problem and not the rents problems would have any effect at all."

He defended mortgage tax relief, although asked about the long term, he said: "Clearly if housing policy evolved in a different way my successors might want to do different things."



Former Chief Petty Officer John Nelson, aged 73, receiving a commemorative medal yesterday from Mr Leonid Zamiatin, the Soviet ambassador to London, for "services to the USSR during the Second World War".

Mr Zamiatin told the former sailors, members of the North Russia Club, that the medals, commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the war, were "tokens of our gratitude" from the President of the Supreme Soviet.

The presentations were made at the Russian embassy in London. Mr Zamiatin will present 148 other members of the club with medals later. British convoys, which ran badly-needed supplies to the Soviet ports of Murmansk and Polynsk from 1941 to 1945, were constantly under attack.

Teachers asked to help find boy

Teachers in private schools have been asked by a High Court judge to assist in a search for a missing boy after his father refused to tell the court where he was.

The judge, Mr Justice Sheldon, lifted reporting restrictions and asked for help in an attempt to find the boy, Peter Kane, aged 11, who is a ward of court, after his father, Mr Erich Kane, a wealthy international businessman, aged 47, admitted sending him to boarding school in England but refused to say which one.

The boy's mother, Mrs Elizabeth Kane, aged 44, lives in Belgium but has been staying with relatives in Colbrook Avenue, Ealing, west London, since her search for her son began in September.

She had sent him on a two-week holiday to his grandparents in Vienna in July, and he went from there to his father's home in Switzerland. But he failed to return the boy to her.

There are no clues as to which school he is at, but the judge ordered anyone who knows where he is to come forward and tell.

£8,000 award in blood case

Miss Caroline Morgan, who was given the wrong type of blood during an operation at St Lawrence Hospital, Chepstow, was yesterday awarded £8,265 damages in the High Court and given hope by the judge.

Miss Morgan, aged 28, of Lambeth, south London, had thought the mistake would mean she could not have a baby by a man with rhesus positive blood, but Mr Justice Boreham said medical advances meant she had a 90 to 95 per cent chance of having a healthy baby.

Appeals fee under attack

The Equal Opportunities Commission claims today that a government plan to charge applicants to industrial tribunals a £25 fee would damage progress against sex discrimination by stopping women making justified claims.

The Government hopes a fee will cut the cost and management effort required to deal with ill-founded claims to industrial tribunals. But the commission says that adequate safeguards against these claims already exist.

Major cleared in shop charge

A shoplifting charge against Major Barnaby Rolfe-Smith, an officer in The Parachute Regiment, was withdrawn when the case came before magistrates at Aldershot, Hampshire, yesterday.

Major Rolfe-Smith, aged 38, a veteran of the Falklands campaign, had been accused of stealing goods worth £3.17 from a Gateway supermarket in Fleet, Hampshire, on August 22. But at yesterday's hearing the prosecution offered no evidence.

Nurses return from Saudi

Three women who were detained in Saudi Arabia for a week for breaking Islamic law arrived back in London yesterday, the last of 29 British medical staff deported from Riyadh.

The two nurses and a secretary at the Military Hospital in Riyadh were arrested for accepting a lift from an unrelated man, which is an offence under Saudi law.

Court upholds school closure

A small Essex community yesterday lost its High Court battle to save Ongar Comprehensive School which won the National Curriculum Award in 1984.

The court ruled that the county council had carried out adequate consultations before deciding to close it in 1989 because of falling pupil numbers.

Guinness kidnap ordeal

Mrs Jennifer Guinness, a banker's wife, endured an eight-day ordeal at the hands of a kidnap gang after being seized at gunpoint from her home, the Circuit Criminal Court in Dublin was told yesterday.

Mr Anthony Kennedy, for the prosecution, said Mrs Guinness, who was tied up, chained and masked for some of the time, feared for her life because of the changing mood of her captors.

She was held at four different addresses before being released unharmed after an overnight siege outside a house in Waterloo Road, Dublin, on April 16.

Brian McNicholl, aged 49, of Waterloo Road, Dublin, who is said to have admitted organizing the kidnap, pleaded not guilty to falsely imprisoning Mrs Guinness and to having a gun with intent to endanger life.

Three men sentenced earlier were arrested in or near the house from which Mrs Guinness was freed. Mr McNicholl was detained by police later that day when he turned up at the house with a woman friend, Mrs Clara Lenihan.

Mrs Lenihan lived at the Waterloo Road address but had nothing to do with the kidnap, Mr Kennedy said.

On the day Mrs Guinness was due to be moved to the siege house, they drove to Co Westmeath and saw a friend of Mr McNicholl, Mr James Clark.

Mr McNicholl, said to have been ashen-faced, asked to talk to Mr Clark urgently and told him: "I am in terrible trouble; my boys kidnaped Mrs Guinness". He later added: "My boys would never tell on me. I organized the kidnaping." Mr McNicholl and Mrs Lenihan then drove back to Dublin to be met by the police.

Mr Kennedy told the jury it was as plain as a "pikestaff" that a lot of force was used throughout the kidnaping. Three other men have already been jailed for their part in the kidnaping of Mrs Guinness from her home at Howth, Dublin, in an unsuccessful attempt to get a £2 million ransom.

On Wednesday, Anthony Kelly, who is sought by Yorkshire police in connection with crimes including the murder of a police sergeant in Leeds, was sentenced to 14 years by the court.

Last May, John and Michael Cunningham, brothers, were imprisoned for 17 years and 14 years respectively.

Fixed price heat saves bill worries for elderly

The Electricity Council announced yesterday the introduction of a remote-controlled heating scheme designed specifically for elderly people.

The scheme, called Budget Warmth, will be operational in six electricity board areas where more than 5,000 systems will be installed this winter.

About 40,000 more elderly people die in winter than during the rest of the year, according to the British Medical Association. Many of those deaths are caused by hypothermia.

Budget Warmth will provide customers with one-room heating at a known weekly cost ranging from £2.28 to £4.37. The heating is remotely controlled by the Electricity Board via radio

teslewhich in line with local weather forecasts.

The scheme, which has been introduced on a pilot basis, is part of a drive to ensure that those most vulnerable to the cold have adequate heating without the worry of bills.

Sir Philip Jones, chairman of the Electricity Council, said that the Budget Warmth scheme was being introduced on a pilot basis to see if customers, especially the elderly and infirm, found it helpful.

"We hope that the scheme will ease their worries about heating bills and ensure that they keep warm throughout the winter," Sir Philip said.

The boards taking part in the scheme are Eastern, East Midlands, North Eastern, South Eastern, Southern and Yorkshire.

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John G. 150

WORLD SUMMARY

Landmark bill on immigration

Washington - President Reagan yesterday signed an historic immigration bill aimed at stemming the flood of billions of illegal aliens into the United States (Mohsin Ali writes). He described the bill as the most comprehensive reform of US immigration laws since 1952, and said: "Future generations of Americans will be thankful for our efforts to permanently regain control of our borders, and thereby preserve the value of one of the most sacred possessions of our people, American citizenship."

Prices frozen

Athens - Greece yesterday ordered a three-month price freeze on all domestic and imported goods and services to discourage profiteering over the introduction of value added tax on January 1 (Mario Modiano writes). A presidential decree that Parliament must ratify within 40 days meant that all prices remain at the level of November 4 until January 31. Offenders face six months' jail or a fine of £2,600, or both.

Life jail for spy

Baltimore (Reuters) - Former Navy officer and admitted spy John Walker Jr has been sentenced to concurrent life terms for masterminding an espionage ring that sold military secrets to the Soviet Union for 17 years. His son, Michael, a former Navy seaman, was jailed for 25 years for his role in the scheme. The judge said he wanted Walker to serve out his sentence for the rest of his natural life.

Kohl under fire again

Bonn - Chancellor Kohl, already in international trouble over his Gorbachev-Goebbels gaffe, yesterday ran into domestic flak on it in a stormy debate in the Bonn Parliament (John England writes). The Social Democratic and Greens opposition parties called for him to be relieved of his post, and said his "incredible" attempt to mend fences with Moscow over his "unforgivable" blunder were too little, too late. Herr Kohl had once again said he regretted that a false impression had arisen from his interview with the US news magazine Newsweek that he had compared Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, to Dr Josef Goebbels, the Nazi Propaganda Minister.

Baby for dissident

Tel Aviv (Reuters) - Mrs Avital Sharanaky, wife of former Soviet dissident Mr Amosly Sharanaky, yesterday gave birth to a daughter nine months after being reunited with her husband. Mrs Sharanaky, aged 36, emigrated to Israel a day after their marriage in July 1974, but Mr Sharanaky was refused an exit visa.

Kim may not run

Seoul - Mr Kim Dae Jung, the prominent opposition leader, has said that he will not run for president in 1988 if the Government heeds his call for direct presidential elections (NYT reports). Western diplomats and opposition politicians here say his decision will put the Government on the defensive and reinvigorate the opposition.

Call for 'bipartisan co-operation' after election battering

Reagan to woo Senate

From Michael Binyon Washington

President Reagan's defiant statement that he has no intention of becoming a "lame duck" during his last two years comes as he is preparing to adopt a conciliatory approach to the newly-elected Democratic-controlled Senate. Mr Reagan said he was looking forward to a period of "hard work and bipartisan co-operation" when Congress returns in January - in contrast to his earlier predictions during the election campaign of "two years of stalemate" if the Republicans lost control of the Senate.



Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, right, receiving a silk jacket from Senator George Mitchell of Maine as a memento of the 55-45 Senate advantage the Democrats hold.

But the President, known for his pragmatism when the odds are against him, will probably spend much more time consulting Democratic leaders and briefing senators on his measures and more controversial proposals. Administration officials admit that the situation is now much more difficult for him, and conciliation is the watchword. However, they insist that he will press forward with his political agenda unchanged and will make no concessions in maintaining US military preparedness and reducing domestic government spending.

"For this administration, peace through strength is more than a policy; it's a promise - a promise we've made to the

majority leader-designate, has said a new trade Bill will be on the President's desk as soon as possible.

Mr Donald Regan, the White House Chief of Staff, said the Democrats will have trouble finding enough votes to override the veto which Mr Reagan is certain to impose on any harshly protectionist legislation.

US MID-TERM ELECTIONS

people and a promise we intend to keep," Mr Reagan said. "Hope alone can never lead to agreement with the Soviets."

The White House now has time to work out a strategy of how to co-operate with Congress, as the long recess gives the Administration some breathing space.

It is hoping to establish new momentum in arms control talks as a way of building up bipartisan support on foreign policy in an area where there is broad agreement between Democrats and Republicans.

One confrontation is likely to develop, however, on trade policy as the Democrats will use their new strength to press for further protectionist measures.

Already Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, the

Blacks flocked to vote

From Christopher Thomas Washington

Black voters in southern states played a central role in scuttling President Reagan's hopes of retaining Republican control of the Senate. The result points to a trend that threatens to make the Democrats the "black" party of Dixie, while the Republicans become the "white" party.

The black turnout nationally was close to the overall national turnout of about 38 per cent, far greater than usual, and the result of an intensive black voter registration drive.

Republican hopes of a fundamental realignment in Dixie away from the historical support of the Democratic Party may be coming true in the case of whites, although the process is obviously happening slowly. But support for the Democrats was as high as 88 per cent.

This polarization in the Senate races was less striking in the voting pattern for the House of Representatives and for state legislatures. But the trend is unmistakable. According to exit polls the white vote in Senate races in Alabama, North Carolina, Louisiana and California split roughly equally overall between Republicans and Democrats. But the black vote was monolithically Democrat.

Other areas promising likely clashes are Central America and funds for the President's Strategic Defence Initiative. The Democrats will be emboldened to take a tougher stand in opposing further help for the contra rebels in Nicaragua, knowing that the US involvement in this shadowy war is deeply unpopular throughout most of the country.

Late results from the polling

- Michigan 10 R William Schuette (84)
- Minnesota 2 R Vin Weber (80)
- Montana 2 R Ron Marlenee (76)
- Nevada 2 R Barbara Vucanovich (82)
- New Jersey 3 D James Howard (64)
- New York 30 D Louise Slaughter (R)
- North Carolina 11 D James Clarke (R)
- Texas 14 R David Sweeney (84)
- Washington 1 R John Miller (84)

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

Sometimes in politics small causes have much larger consequences. So it is likely to prove with the Democratic party's recapture of the American Senate.

The mid-term elections were not a test of President Reagan's popularity. With a few exceptions, such as agricultural policy in some of the farming states, they were not about issues of any national consequence.

So when I arrived in the United States at the end of last week, I thought it might not make all that much difference whether or not the Republicans managed to keep control of the Senate. Most of the Democrats taking over committee chairmanships would be on the moderate wing of the party and they would not wish to pick a fight with a President who retained his astonishing personal popularity.

But the more I have spoken to Republicans themselves, in and out of the Administration, the more I have come to revise that initial judgment. A distinction should be drawn between the effect of the loss of the Senate on Mr Reagan himself and on the Administration.

With another President, the damage might have been severe. Here is a leader who campaigned extensively, who attacked his opponents, often in harsh personal terms, who apparently committed much political capital to the struggle and whose appeal was then rejected by the voters in the races that mattered most.

But Mr Reagan has a personal standing that transcends normal political considerations. It does not appear to be diminished either by failure or by disagreement. He may not be able to win enough votes for his supporters but he will retain the affection and the approval of the country.

The impact of the Senate defeat will be much more severe, however, on his Administration, that is true even though the Republicans

did not do at all badly in the other elections this week. At this stage, after six years in office and with no more than another two years to go, some exodus of people just below Cabinet level would have been expected anyway. Some are exhausted and others will want to move to lucrative jobs outside government while this Administration remains in office and their connection with it confers prestige. This exodus will now be all the greater because it will become significantly harder for the Administration to get any fresh initiative through Congress.

The Democratic leadership in the Senate is unlikely to go out of its way to quarrel with the Administration. It will be wary of Mr Reagan's continuing popularity and it will not want to present a target for Republican criticism in 1988.

None the less, there will be some areas where the Democrats will be expected to make things difficult for the Administration - on aid for the Contras in Nicaragua, for example, on defence spending in general and possibly on the Strategic Defence Initiative in particular. There will be a good many more areas where they will not be deliberately disruptive but where they will be less helpful and less prepared to take political risks than Republican committee chairmen would have been.

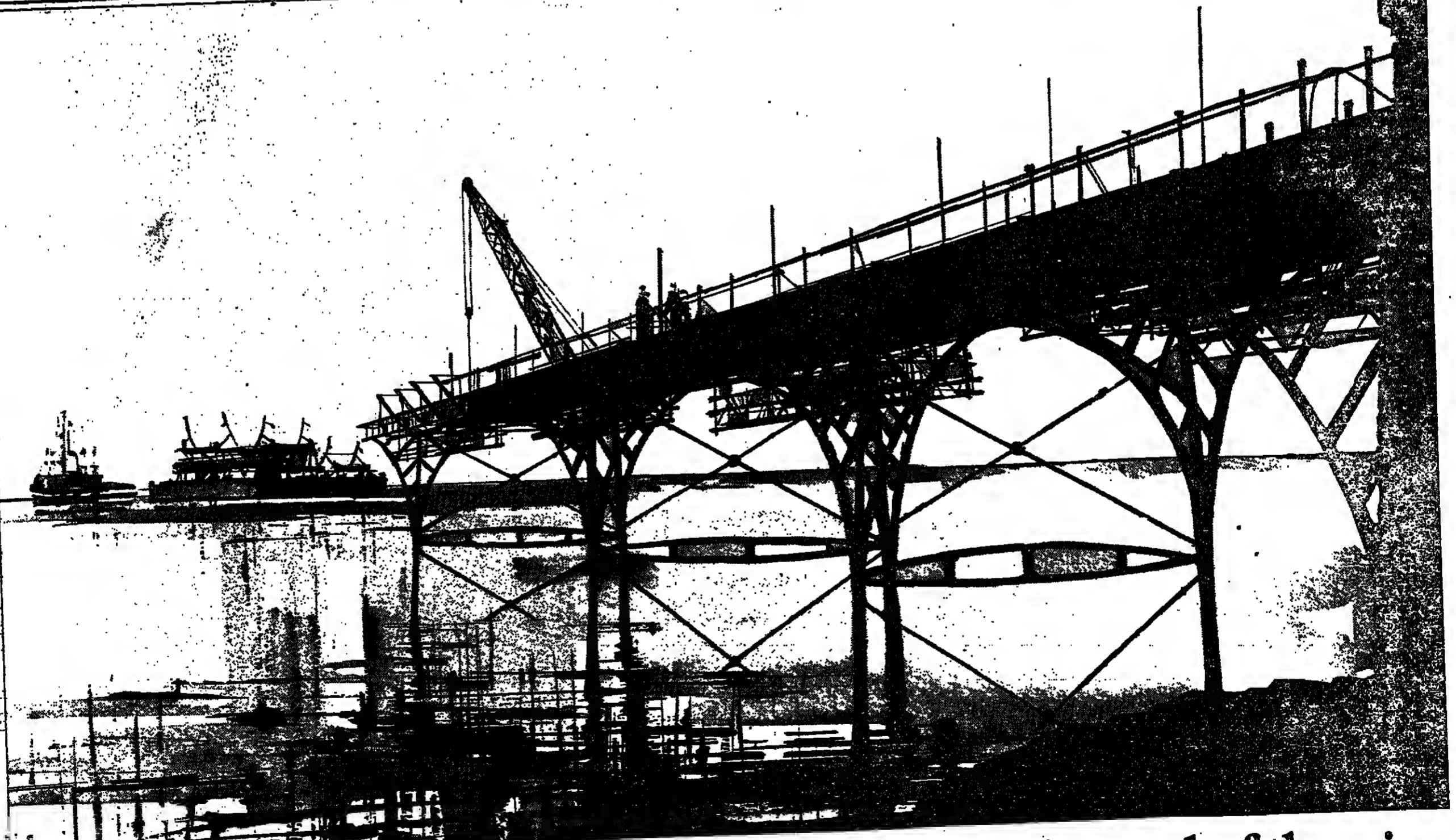
Scope for positive action restricted

These tendencies will reinforce each other. The more people leave the Administration at that critical level where the specifics of policy initiatives are developed, the fewer bold new ideas will be presented to Congress. The more Congress resists new initiatives, the more likely it is that capable people will leave the Administration because they feel that they can no longer accomplish much.

Even if the change of personnel within the Administration - and also on the Senate committee staffs now that the Democrats are taking over the chairmanships - were only to slow down the policy flow for a while, it would still be a critical loss of momentum.

There could not in the best of circumstances be much more than a year available to the Reagan Administration for substantial new initiatives. From early 1988 the political process will become overwhelmed by the presidential primaries.

So the prospect is not of a lame duck President, but of an Administration whose scope for positive action will be much restricted.



When the oil price slumped, it seemed like the end of the pier.

An unlikely story at first sight, perhaps, but one which well illustrates the 'ripple-effect' that can operate in the world's economy. When the oil price took a tumble, so unfortunately did many companies. Among them was a large and long-established engineering concern. Its collapse threatened to bring to a halt the restoration of one of England's most cherished piers, upon which the company had been working until its demise.

Happily, work on the pier was not after all interrupted, thanks to the swift initiative of the receiver. Also unaffected were thirty eight of the creditors with whom the ill-fated company had been associated. They owe their immunity to the fact that they were insured with Trade Indemnity, against just the sort of unpredictable risk which could otherwise have brought them down.

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White woman member of ANC sentenced to 25 years for treason

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A white woman who confessed to being a member of the military wing of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC) and planting bombs in three police stations earlier this year was sentenced yesterday to 25 years in prison for treason and arson.

There were cries of "Aman- dila, Awethu" ("Power to the people") from the mixed crowd packed into the public gallery of the Rand Supreme Court as the Miss Marioo Sparg, holding a bouquet of yellow chrysanthemums given to her by a sympathizer, was escorted from the court by police.

Sparg, aged 28, who is one of the few whites and still fewer white women to be convicted of treason, pleaded guilty to all the charges against her. She accepted the judge's verdict with composure, and even managed a smile for her tearful mother in the gallery.

During the first two days of the three-day trial, Sparg wore a black suit and a green shirt, and yesterday added a yellow ribbon to complete the three colours of the ANC flag. She said that she regarded herself not as a traitor but as "a soldier and patriot" fighting to rid South Africa of the evil of apartheid, which she saw as a crime against humanity and a threat to world peace.

"Apartheid has to be destroyed and the only way to do so is by going to war," she said. "My motives, I feel, are not those of a murderer or killer or even of a saboteur... My motive is that of a soldier, a volunteer soldier, not one who is conscripted."

Sparg confessed to planting limpet mines in February and March of this year in toilets in police stations in East London and Johannesburg, and to petrol-bombing offices of the liberal opposition Progressive Federal Party (PFP) five years ago.

The limpet mines caused considerable damage and slightly wounded several policemen and civilians.

Sparg told the court she was fully aware that the mines could have killed people, but said she regarded the police as "combatants" and had tried to minimize the risk to civilians.

Police stations were symbols of the system which was protecting apartheid, Sparg maintained. She said she regretted the bombing of the PFP offices. She had been "confused and immature" at the time. She still disagreed with the party, but would not choose it as a target now.

Sparg said that a turning-point in her life was the death



Marion Sparg, admitted planting limpet mines.

of Mr Stephen Biko, the Black Consciousness leader, in police custody in 1977.

She had been horrified by the lack of concern of fellow white students at Rhodes University where she had been studying journalism at the time.

After practising for a while as a journalist, she left South Africa illegally in 1981, going to Botswana and then to Zambia.

From there she was sent by the ANC, which has its headquarters in Lusaka, the Zambian capital, to a camp in Angola for three months military training.

Sparg spent three years in Lusaka working in the ANC's information and publicity department, and was infiltrated back into South Africa via Lesotho in 1985 on a false passport.

Early this year she and an accomplice smuggled eight limpet mines into South Africa from Lesotho in the back-door panels of a hired car.

The judge, Mr Justice P J van der Walt, said it was "providential" that no-one had been killed as the result of Sparg's actions, and told her: "Had lives been lost, you would almost certainly have received the death penalty."

● Boesak pledges: Dr Allan Boesak, Moderator of the Coloured branch of the Dutch Reformed Church, said on Wednesday night that he would not hesitate to repeat acts for which he had been charged with subversion by the Government.



Three American sailors toasting Chen Mimi, of the Chinese Navy, with local beer during a visit to a brewery at Qingdao yesterday. The occasion was part of the first official visit by three US warships to China in 57 years.

Deadlock in Vienna

Shultz and Shevardnadze bury hopes

From Andrew McEwen, Vienna

The brief Reykjavik flowering of hope for an end to the era of nuclear "overkill" yesterday remained where President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev left it - in limbo.

Two Vienna meetings between Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, and his Soviet opposite number, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, ended in deadlock.

Short of a climbdown from fixed positions, there is now no prospect of anything but piecemeal preparatory agreements in the near future.

The original plan - that Reykjavik should pave the way for an historic disarmament summit - have been shelved.

President Reagan hopes that agreement will be reached before his term ends now look remote, although, as Mr Shultz pointed out yesterday, "two years is a long time".

The two foreign ministers have set no date for another meeting. The focus switches to the humbler level of the Geneva strategic arms talks.

Mr Max Kampelman, the chief US arms negotiator, believes the Soviets will table

their proposals tomorrow, but he expects no surprises.

Vienna has been a major setback for the Americans in the struggle for European hearts and minds. As a platform to hammer home the Soviet message that the American obsession with Star Wars is blocking world peace it could hardly have been more effective.

The reality is somewhat different, as American experts struggled to explain yesterday. Far from being the only barrier to agreement, the Strategic Defence Initiative is but one of a range of problems.

Another of these is of far more fundamental importance to Nato. The Russians refuse to concede any automatic verification procedure to ensure compliance with an agreement to withdraw most Soviet and Nato troops from central Europe.

The Soviet idea of verification would be no more than a right to request an inspection after receiving evidence of "cheating".

American and Soviet experts who worked late into the night between the two Shultz-

Administration take this line of thought further. Some interpret the Vienna meeting as confirmation of their worst fears - that the entire Reykjavik-Vienna process was nothing more than a Kremlin propaganda exercise.

"My opinion is that they would try to lay the foundations for a PR campaign to denigrate the US," a senior Administration hawk said yesterday.

The Soviet public relations triumph at Reykjavik and Vienna has been so total that it is the Americans who have the explaining to do. Mr Shultz and Mr Shevardnadze have that vital political quality - the ability to radiate personal trustworthiness. But the Soviet Foreign Minister holds the balance of advantage with better speech writers, a warmer manner and a more moderate image.

Vienna was virtually an action replay on Reykjavik, with a crestfallen Mr Shultz reporting failure while Mr Shevardnadze rubbed salt in the wound with his airport departure statement that the talks "had left a bitter taste".

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, is openly voicing his doubts that the Soviet Union wants such a world. Cynics within the US

Flowers but no tears for general

From Roger Boye, Warsaw

Poland's secret policemen, the vintage and the scraggy, joined soldiers veteran and new, yesterday, to say farewell to General Mieczyslaw Moczar, one of the strongest and most sinister politicians in the country's post-war history.

The unexpected mourner yesterday's funeral service was General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, who could not be classed as an admirer of the former Interior Minister. General Moczar, during one of several pushes for the leadership, helped to stir up a vicious anti-semitic campaign in 1968 that prompted many hundreds of Polish Jews to leave their jobs or their country. Professor Henryk Jablonski, former head of the Polish state, now chairman of the War Veteran's Association, reviewed General Moczar's career from pre-war communist, to partisan leader, to secret police chief in Lodz, to Interior Minister and on, by means of a series of sidesteps, into influential obscurity.

"Comrade Moczar was shaped by history but he also gave it shape," Professor Jablonski said to his speech, which sped, like a skater on thin ice, over the events of 1968.

The pile of wreaths included those from the Communist Party - for, despite his jostling with party leaders Mr Wladyslaw Gomułka, Mr Edward Gierek and Mr Stanislaw Kania, he remained a true believing communist until the end. Another wreath came from Interior Ministry employees - the ministry which oversees the secret and uniformed police and which for so long served as his political base.

General Moczar evolved a kind of nationalistic communism, which both embraced and distanced itself from the Soviet Union - to some that was an attractive philosophy, to others an excuse to indulge in the crudest of chauvinisms.

Those in power drifted away, those out of power stayed, strangely connected to the man in the coffin. They dispersed, shaking off the rain, only when the coffin was loaded into a bus for the last trip to a family grave near Lublin. It was an unsentimental departure befitting an unsentimental politician.

Soviet military chief may go soon

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A shake-up at the top level of the Soviet military establishment is believed to be imminent following persistent rumours about the failing health of the Defence Minister, Marshal Sergei Sokolov, who is 75.

The speculation intensified yesterday when the ageing minister conspicuously failed to attend a major Kremlin rally to mark the 69th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution.

According to senior West-

ern military sources, the minister has not been seen in public since last July when he paid an official trip to Finland.

Rumours about his failing health gathered momentum with the publication of an official notice in the armed forces newspaper *Red Star* on Wednesday stating that in a break with tradition, he would not be taking the salute at the annual military parade through Red Square.

An order, signed by the Commander of the Moscow Military District, Vladimir

Archipov, said that the parade would be presided over instead by General Pyotr Lushev, the man most widely tipped by both Western and Soviet sources to take over the important defence portfolio.

● Harvest up: A dramatic improvement in the Soviet output of grain was claimed yesterday by Mr Yigor Ligachev, the No 2 figure in the Kremlin hierarchy, who said that the harvest for 1986 was now expected to reach 210 million tonnes. The figure caught most international experts by surprise.

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Visit by Chirac crowns success of co-operation on Eta raiders

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister, held private conversations with Señor Felipe González, the Spanish opposite number, during his one-day visit here yesterday. The visit took place at a time when Franco-Spanish collaboration against terrorism has never been better.

The handing over early yesterday to Spain of six Spanish Basques, all alleged ETA members, detained by French police after a raid on a factory inside the French border on Wednesday, was the biggest since last summer, when France started a policy of summary extraditions.

All the political parties in Madrid praised the French action, seen here yesterday as a serious blow for the Basque terrorist organization's infrastructure.

The haul included not only sophisticated weapons but also internal papers relating to ETA's financial situation and future plans for armed attacks.

Spain's ruling Socialist Party is enjoying a degree of co-operation from the conservative administration

Protests in Spain over guerrillas' expulsion

Madrid. — The Spanish Basque country erupted in protest yesterday against France's expulsion of six suspected separatist guerrillas as French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac paid his first official visit to Madrid.

Demonstrators blocked motorways and roads around several Basque towns, set fire

in Paris unknown under the French Socialist Government.

The six Basques handed over yesterday were being transferred under the Anti-Terrorism Law to Spain's maximum security jail, where they will be held incommunicado. There were, however, some street demonstrations in the Basque region yesterday against the French move.

The two countries have, for the time being at least, settled their disputes over fishing rights in the Bay of Biscay and over the admission to EEC markets of Mediterranean products — rivaling those from Spain — from North African countries.

France is currently Spain's best customer but only third supplier of goods and services, and that position has been slipping since Spain joined the EEC last January.

Besides reviewing with Señor González further collaboration on terrorism, Mr Chirac also sought to persuade Spain to increase its defence purchases and to collaborate more closely with the French communications industry.



Chile students riot

Fellow students aiding one of the five high school pupils hurt during clashes with police in Santiago yesterday. More than 100 students were arrested when police stopped a group which had seized control of a high school asking for democratic freedom in the educational system. At a seminar on national security on Wednesday, Airforce Colonel Carlos Castro, commenting on the results in the elections for national student leaders, won by the centre-left, said: "The universities are falling into the hands of the marxists."

Lima's reformist mayor ends myth of bungling left

From Michael Smith, Lima

Mayor Alfonso Barrantes's three-year term in office, which comes to a close with the municipal elections in Peru on Sunday, has done much to change the face of the city and the workings of Peruvian politics.

As the first freely-elected Marxist mayor of a Latin American capital, he and his United Left coalition have moved into political respectability, which would theoretically include a shot at national power.

"The Barrantes mayoralty has shattered the myth of the left's incompetence in administrative power," said Señor Mirko Lauzer, a political analyst.

Lima is a sprawling city of nearly six million inhabitants caught in a two-pronged urban pincer. Its inner city suffers from deterioration as commercial interest move out to more attractive, new business districts. But it is also surrounded by shanty towns where nearly half the population clammer for basic services like water and light.

In the past, municipal government has done little but rubber-stamp birth certificates, raise statues in parks and keep street vendors from usurping whole blocks — often unsuccessfully. There have only been five free municipal elections in 150 years of independence so there was little precedent on which to build.

Señor Barrantes inherited a city hall which was unable to meet its monthly payrolls. Today the budget is out of the red, topping \$121 million (£85 million). The investment budget has been increased 11-fold from 1984 levels, in part due to an \$83 million World Bank loan for urban infrastructure.

After fighting for 18 months to get municipal finances under control, Señor Barrantes undertook a major facelift of downtown Lima, painting historic buildings and plazas in vivid tones, re-routing traffic and buses away from congested streets and remodeling main boulevards. More than 150 miles of roads have been repaired or paved.

In social services, an area where municipal government has rarely ventured, Señor Barrantes also fulfilled his most controversial campaign promise — to set up 8,000 neighbourhood committees to distribute one million breakfast rations a day to children in underprivileged neighbourhoods where he is affectionately called "Uncle Bean".

However, many solutions are out of the reach of the city administration as it feuds with state companies, which provide public services like water and electricity and the national Government of President Alan García.

Many critics three years ago were predicting disaster under the Marxists, but balanced budgets and improved management and services have proved doom-sayers wrong, though it may not be sufficient to win re-election on Sunday.

Perhaps the change of greatest political significance has occurred inside the United Left itself. The six-party electoral alliance includes the Peking-style and Moscow-line communist parties plus home-grown brands of Marxists, socialists and independents.

It has been held together by Señor Barrantes's political glue.

Señor Barrantes, once again the underdog as he was in 1984, will have to push hard to swing enough votes from his two opponents to the right. But for the first time in Peru, a Marxist candidate will be running on his record, not on revolutionary manifestos.

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Girl Tuesday



Girl Wednesday



Girl Thursday



Girl Friday



Girl Saturday



Girl Sunday



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In this Energy Efficiency Year, for instance, we have provided £30,000 to the national charity supported by the

Department of Energy, Neighbourhood Energy Action, which provides insulation for the poor and the elderly.

We are also sponsoring a nationwide programme of Energy Efficiency Education seminars, organised by the Cranfield Institute of Technology, to help teachers and administrators use energy better.

And we continue to promote new thinking on energy matters by sponsoring the Royal Society Esso Energy Award.

The Meteorological Office won it this year for a global weather forecasting system that enables aircraft to make best use of prevailing winds — and hence fuel economies.

Although forecasting next year's winner is impossible, one thing is certain. On the energy efficiency front, Esso will continue to make further strides.



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THE ARTS

Natural suffering

The producer Alan Stewart was killed by a land-mine while filming Where Hunger is a Weapon for This Week (ITV) in Southern Sudan...

TELEVISION

Dennis Potter's Blue Remembered Hills (BBC2), which won the Bafta award for best single play in 1979...

Consider the plot. It culminates in the burning to death of Donald Duck, the village cissy, in a barn...

Anne Campbell Dixon

Fellini's integrity in nostalgic farce

CINEMA

Ginger and Fred (15) Gate Notting Hill, Cannon Tottenham Court Road

Shoah (PG) Curzon

Ruthless People (18) Odeon Leicester Square

Federico Fellini's Roman trilogy, which began 26 years ago with La dolce vita and had Roma (1972) as its centre-piece...

The film relates the events of 24 hours. Long ago, Ginger (Giulietta Masina, Fellini's wife) and Fred (Marcello Mastroianni) toured the variety circuit with a double act in which they impersonated the rather more famous American dance team...

Even this is only limbo to the inferno of the television station, manned by bored, cold, inhuman young devils. An MC with a sequinned jacket and mechanical smile whips off the studio audience to applaud a frantic freak-show...

Anne Campbell Dixon



Just a shade arthritic: Marcello Mastroianni and Giulietta Masina in Ginger and Fred

and Queen Elizabeth lookalikes and a miracle woman who went without television for three whole months. In the midst of this, Ginger and Fred seem the last relics of humanity, even if she has weathered into a haggard, grumpy and he is fat, breathless, boozey and outrageous...

They reconstruct, fragment by fragment, the whole history of the Final Solution and the mechanisms of the extermination camps. We learn precisely how the trains arrived, how they were unloaded and how efficiently the Jews, arriving in their tens of thousands, were processed...

Anne Campbell Dixon

again. The most mundane details are sometimes the most shocking. Every fare, it seems, was meticulously calculated and paid in advance...

The survivors are few and their stories are terrible. A man on an exhumation detail (the Germans had changed their minds and decided to disinter and cremate 40,000 bodies already buried) chanced suddenly on the corpses of his family; a barber employed to cut the hair of women in the very gas chamber found himself performing this last humiliating rite upon his wife and sister...

Lanzmann goes over it again and again. The most mundane details are sometimes the most shocking. Every fare, it seems, was meticulously calculated and paid in advance...

David Robinson

He needs to record their pain: "These tears," he says, "are the seal of truth."

With the old Nazis who appear before his camera (generally for cash, and sometimes not knowing the camera was there) he is more ruthless, leading them into terrible self-exposure. "People burn very well," says one, complacently, given a little encouragement. Nor does Lanzmann protect the Poles who lived alongside the camps and contentedly moved into abandoned Jewish homes...

The accumulation of so much detail brings us closer than ever before to the experience of the Holocaust. It cannot explain, any more than previous films. Every film before, however, has comforted us with the belief that it is inconceivable how such a thing came in pass. The ultimate terror in Shoah is that all this mundane, everyday suddenly makes it conceivable all that was needed was conscientious and unimaginative civil servants, operatives such as might readily be recruited on the football terraces today...

For comic relief this week you could hardly do better than Ruthless People, directed by Jim Abrahams and David and Jerry Zucker, and a marked advance upon their previous Airplane and Top Secret. The film exploits to good effect a comic idea - used at least once, as I recall, by Damon Runyon - about kidnappers who find their victim such a pain in the neck that they would happily pay to have her taken off their hands.

The kidnaped one in this case is Bette Midler, looking a fright as a Bel Air parvenue, and giving her best comic performance to date. The kidnap proves a godsend to her disgracing husband (Danny DeVito), saving him the trouble of going through with his plan to murder her so that he can move in his well-built mistress. The irony is that the only virtuous people in the entire film are the impetuous, put-upon and inept kidnappers.

David Robinson

Claude Lanzmann, director of Shoah, is interviewed by David Robinson in tomorrow's paper.

THEATRE

Too True to be Good Riverside

T.E. Lawrence, complete with motor cycle and disquisitions on government, postwar sexuality and the wholesale collapse of belief (typically, the chief victim is a former devout atheist).

By all the rules, the result ought to be unstagably incoherent, and yet the play remains spellbinding. Its success derives partly from the quality of each scenic fragment in which we see earlier Shavian arguments distilled to their comic essence.

Anne Campbell Dixon

DANCE

Sleeping Beauty Covent Garden

Aurora in The Sleeping Beauty is Cynthia Harvey's fifth role at Covent Garden since her debut with the Royal Ballet four weeks earlier. Those roles have covered the spectrum of the repertory...

The chief merit of her dancing in this role is a smooth, sustained quality of movement. This shows especially in the creamy way she phrases the solo in the Vision Scene, making it flow lyrically without any loss of definition in individual movements.

Irving Wardle

MEMORIAL CONCERT

Cornelius Cardew Purcell Room

This concert, a tribute to the socialist composer Cornelius Cardew, who died in a road accident five years ago (he would have been 50 this year), was promoted by an organization called the Progressive Cultural Association, which Cardew served as secretary.

Stephen Pettitt

SEASON EXTENDED

FRANCES DE LA TOUR

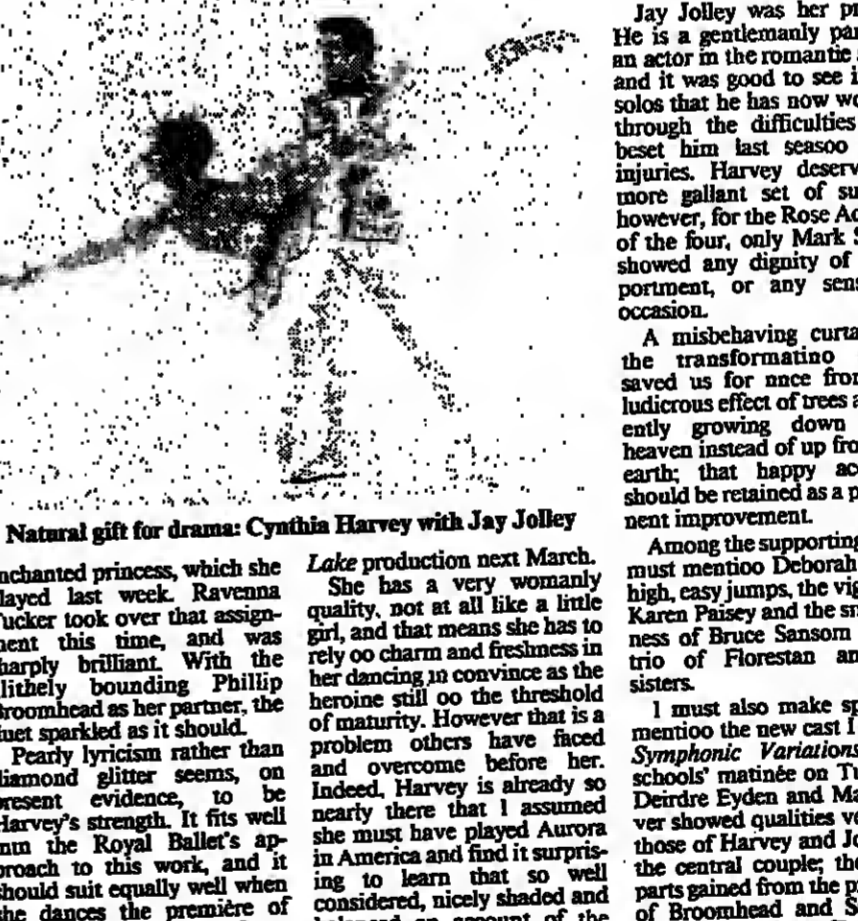
LILLIAN WILLIAM LUCE with CORIN REDGRANE SUNS NOV 9,16,23,31 at 4pm LYRIC THEATRE TEL: 437 3686/7 434 1550

John Percival

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

GENERAL DIRECTOR The Board of Directors of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, is considering the choice of a successor to Sir John Tooley, who is due to retire in July 1989 as General Director...

Irving Wardle



Natural gift for drama: Cynthia Harvey with Jay Jolley

THE WOMEN A Savagely funny comedy BY CLARE BOOTH LUCE MARIA AITKEN JUDI BOWKER FAITH BROOK BARBARA EWING JULIA FOSTER GEORGINA HALE PATTI LOVE DIANA QUICK ZENA WALKER and SUSANNAH YORK Directed by Keith Hack, Sets by Voytek, Costumes by John Bright THE OLD VIC Box Office: 01-928 7616 Credit Cards: 01-861 1821 19 November 1986 for a limited season

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE GENERAL DIRECTOR The Board of Directors of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, is considering the choice of a successor to Sir John Tooley, who is due to retire in July 1989 as General Director...

MEMORIAL CONCERT Cornelius Cardew Purcell Room This concert, a tribute to the socialist composer Cornelius Cardew, who died in a road accident five years ago...

Table with 2 columns: Instrument/Share Type and Interest Rate. Includes Premium Reserve (9.25%), High Return Access Shares (8.75%), Liquid Gold (8.50%), Liquid Gold (8.25%), and Liquid Gold (8.00%).

Our interest rates are going in the right direction.

the Leeds PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY ALL RATES ARE NET. BASIS RATE TAX PAID

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FRIDAY PAGE

Tricky to place, easy to please

A handicapped child can be just as loving as any other, yet adoption agencies find it hard to find homes for them. A new video scheme will give prospective parents an idea of what such children are like. Peta Levi reports

Once 14-year-old Robert's shyness slips away, he has a lovely smile. He is affectionate, has a sense of humour and enjoys playing cricket and football and listening to music and stories. Robert has been in care since the age of six; he is mentally handicapped, but can feed and dress himself and an intensive toilet training programme is progressing well, even though it sometimes provokes his temper. He will amuse himself for hours with his cars and jigsaw puzzles, both of which he marshals into orderly lines, showing organizational ability. He is helpful, clearing plates and fetching water and glasses without being asked. Although he is living happily in a small, well-run "family-group" home for mentally handicapped children in Yorkshire, he is a child who would undoubtedly benefit from the stimulation of a loving family. It is not hard to imagine his clarity of speech, his co-ordination (he has recently taken to drawing with pens), general skills and self-confidence developing enormously in such a secure environment. The problem is finding him such a family. In the hope of helping children like Robert, British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering (BAAF) this week launch a new scheme, Adoption by Video. BAAF is a professional association offering a range of services to all who work in child care. Apart from 1,500 individual members, its corporate members include all UK voluntary adoption agencies and all local authorities but one (Staffordshire). Adoption by Video is believed to be a unique scheme for arousing interest in parenting children with handicaps. Bridget Warr, one of BAAF's assistant directors, says: "The idea to make 20-minute videos of children with special needs seeking parents (such as Robert) was a natural development from our highly successful book, Be My Parent. The book has proved very effective in bringing a child's particular needs to life. We have started the new scheme by making videos of 20 children to see if by giving more information on a child it will attract more parents." Through BAAF's Exchange Service, which links adoption agencies throughout the UK, it has found families for 2,000 children. Since the launch in 1980 of Be My Parent, a loose-leaf book with photos and information about children with special needs, 334 children, representing some of the most handicapped, have found families. Only a few have not settled with their families, usually because of the severity of their handicap, or because of dry mouth such as anti-depressants, some tranquilizers, or dehydration in poorly controlled diabetes, he says that a diagnosis of Sjogren's syndrome should be considered. Although little known to the general public, the syndrome is surprisingly common: surveys show that about one in 2,000 of the population are affected. It usually attacks the older age group, and women more often than men. Sjogren's is an autoimmune disease in which there is destruction of the tear and salivary glands, so that eyes and mouth are very dry and vulnerable to secondary infection. The syndrome is often associated with rheumatic diseases.

Waiting: Robert, 14, one of the mentally handicapped children featured on video, enjoys listening to music. He has been in care since he was six years in the case of older children, they have never known family life. There were about 78,000 children in care in England and Wales in 1983 and more than half had been in care for more than three years. BAAF's policy, borne out by experience, is that the best place for any child to be brought up is in a family. The handicapped children who have been adopted through Be My Parent appear to do well. For example, Bob was severely physically handicapped, could not walk or talk and rarely smiled, yet a minor and his wife, with grown-up children, "took a shine" to him and adopted him. BAAF received a Christmas card showing Bob standing at the gate with an enormous grin, only equal to that of his adoptive parents, justifiably delighted with their "son's" progress. Many of the children placed by BAAF are mentally and physically handicapped and some have behavioural problems. Warr says: "Ten years ago it would have been almost impossible to place a Down's child, but now this handicap is much better understood and they are among the easiest to place."

You need sensitivity, patience, stamina and a sense of humour

What problems face a family adopting a child with special needs? One social worker says: "One of the biggest initial problems is coping with the stigma of becoming a handicapped family, a problem that siblings can find particularly difficult. I question why prospective parents are wanting to adopt a handicapped child, to make sure they have a realistic, not a sentimental or romantic, approach. You also need sensitivity, patience, stamina and a sense of humour." The backgrounds of adoptive parents vary widely, but their characters tend to be of a type - they have a need or desire to look af-



ter another human being, a forceful personality prepared to fight for the child's rights, and frequently they have experience of coping with a handicapped person. One such family is Pauline and Greig Stewart and their seven-year-old daughter, Anne-Morag. Pauline has had five miscarriages, and gave birth to a severely handicapped daughter who died at the age of four weeks. She spent seven months in hospital when pregnant with Anne-Morag. Pauline and Greig said: "We felt there was a space to be filled and we had an awful lot of love to give." At first they had wanted to adopt a physically handicapped child, but after the birth of their own mentally handicapped daughter, they felt they could not only cope, but that it would be a challenge to care for a child with a mental handicap. It took them two and a half years and 30 letters to adoption agencies before they found six-month-old Adam, with Down's Syndrome, through the Be My Parent book. Adam is now two. On returning from nursery school he dashed round the room giving everyone a wet kiss. He feeds himself, says "hello" and "ta", knows his colours and counts up to five. Pauline's fighting spirit has expressed itself in her demanding a place for Adam at the local nursery school. When Adam was not considered sufficiently handicapped for physiotherapy from the stretched local services, Pauline went on a course to learn portage (exercises devised for children with mental handicaps), which she regularly does with Adam. She also trained in makaton, a sign language where you say the word at the same time as making a sign, so that the child communicates by signs before actually speaking the word, then masters the word and drops the sign. "Our aim is to help Adam to become independent," Pauline says, "so that at the age of, say, 20 he can move away from home and lead an independent life." They are already inquiring about hostels and adult training, and have made provision for Adam in their wills.

Our aim is to make him independent by the age of, say, 20

Crack troops

Doctors used to treating stress fractures will not be surprised to learn that David Colvin, Councillor at the British Embassy in Budapest, is hobbling around because his leg spontaneously broke while he was playing squash. A recent leading article in The Lancet showed that 2 per cent of male recruits to the US Army developed a stress fracture during training. Soldiers in the Israeli Army, who apparently undergo much more rigorous training, had a 31 per cent incidence of one stress fracture or another. Although spontaneous fractures occasioned by extremes of exercise usually occur in the lower limbs, they can affect any bones. The bones which are most apt to break are the tibia (the larger bone in the lower leg) which cracks just below the knee, and the metatarsal bones of the foot. Once someone has suffered a stress fracture, he or she is more likely to sustain others and to have osteoporosis (rarefaction of the bones) in later life. These patients should take plenty of calcium, not too much alcohol - and a liberal amount of good, steady exercise.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Crack troops

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Chopstick trap for unwary

Although the Queen's skill with chopsticks was obviously pleasing to her Chinese hosts, a letter in The Lancet from Drs M.F. Myszor and J. Reese draws our attention to the dangers of chopsticks. In order to avoid embarrassing other guests by eating slowly, inexperienced users can be tempted to swallow over-large pieces of meat. Food cut end served in the western way will not normally stick in the oesophagus (gullet). If it does, or even if it seems to, it is an indication of this need for immediate investigation. When chopsticks are ineptly handled, or meat has been badly cut up, swallowing can be difficult, even with a normal oesophagus. The Newcastle doctors describe two recent cases in which gastroscopy was needed to clear away a Chinese dinner which had become impacted. The first was of a 38-year-old man who was hurrying through his meal when he developed a sudden chest pain and could swallow neither food nor drink. The next day, in hospital, a large piece of fiver was found to be causing a complete oesophageal obstruction. After its removal he made an uneventful recovery. The other patient was a 34-year-old housewife, whose dinner was ended by a bit of sliced beef. Even the Chinese have their problems: the largest study of obstruction of an otherwise healthy oesophagus has been conducted in Hong Kong.

Smiles that reveal all

Forty years ago, when the manufacture of cosmetics was less sophisticated than it is today, it was common to see women's front teeth smeared with lipstick. Since it began to be made with a hydrophobic base, teeth are now left sparkling clean, provided there is adequate saliva. Dr G.J. Ruiz-Arquelles has written to the New England Journal of Medicine suggesting that the sight is so rare these days that when it is seen it has a clinical significance. Having excluded other causes

Hormone link with cancer

Today's body builder supplements his regime with anabolic steroids, hormones of one type or another designed to increase body mass and muscle power. Likewise the insecure middle-aged man anxious about his falling sexual prowess takes testosterone or its more sophisticated equivalents. Dr J.T. Roberts, of Newcastle General Hospital, and Mr D.S. Essenhigh, of the Department of Urology of the Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, have written to The Lancet suggesting that as testosterone supplements have been shown to increase the chances of developing cancer of the prostate, there may also be a relationship between the use of the anabolic steroids and testosterone substitutes and this malignancy. The disease is uncommon in men under the age of 55, so they illustrate their point by quoting the case of a 38-year-old body builder who already had an advanced growth when first seen. He had been taking hormones for 20 years. Dr Thomas Stuttford

A breath of fresh air for the British perfume market

The notion of British fragrance used to conjure up a hazy image of lavender water-scented drawer liners and the lingering aroma of visiting great-aunts' moth-balls. Our once-flourishing Mayfair perfume industry has lagged sadly behind in the highly commercialized race to clutter smart dressing tables with fragrances, almost always French, whose designer links lend them an allure sometimes quite out of proportion with the perfumes themselves. Ironically, that bastion of bespoke masculinity, Jermyn Street, was the setting for the launch this week of a new up-market British women's perfume - the brainchild of a dynamic young duo whose appearance on the scent scene is like a breath of fresh air. Amaryliss is the creation of Martin Williams and Philip Montague-Peters, who protests that too many scents on sale today "are not lovely, adorable smells - but cleverly marketed odours which could strip paint at 15 paces". The impeccably tailored partnership was forged when Martin was asked by his father, the managing director of gentlemen's outfitters Turnbull and Asser, to find a new cologne which could be sold alongside the silk ties and striped shirts. Martin, who has had a life-long passion for packaging, spotted a particularly beautiful perfume bottle and asked to be put in touch with the scent's creator. Philip Montague-Peters, at



Nose for a trend: Montague-Peters (left) and Williams

pick out the best quality. I happened to choose the right stuff," he says modestly. Montague-Peters's nose and Williams's marketing skills have come together to form a partnership called Alpha Blue whose express intention is to change the frumpy identity of British perfume. After the cologne for Turnbull and Asser came several commissions - including a request to produce "a salty dog smell for Captain O. M. Watts, the oldest ships' chandler in Europe" - but Montague-Peters had long cherished the dream of launching Amaryliss, a perfume whose emphasis is on quality rather than mass marketing. It is a subtle, feminine fragrance blending rose, jasmine, orange flower, hyacinth, oak moss, bergamot and lavender oil which perfectly fits their brief that "perfume should enhance a woman, not something you can smell before she turns the corner". They are both intensely proud of the Britishness of their product, of which hard-to-please Harrods buyers "took one whiff and they were sold". In keeping with one Jermyn Street tradition, at least, it sells for 20 guineas (£21) for 15ml. "Launching Amaryliss is a bit like having a baby," says Philip, who is father to two of his own. "Only this smells better," adds Martin. Josephine Fairley

Advertisement for HEAL'S dining furniture. Features images of a dining table and chairs. Text includes: 'ELEGANT DINING AT HEAL'S', 'DINING TABLE £439 £359', 'DINING CHAIR £135', and a list of products and prices. A large '90% OFF' graphic is also present.

Advertisement titled 'FIRST PERSON' and 'Nightie nightmare'. It tells the story of a customer's experience with a nightgown purchase. Text includes: 'One of my weaknesses is the inability to avoid sending for clothes from mail order catalogues...', 'I produced an address in the Midlands but no number...', and 'Ann Carr'.

Advertisement for a fur store. Text includes: 'Look a million dollars for our official opening at 61 Piccadilly', 'LAST CHANCE THIS WEEKEND ONLY', '...for 1/10th of the price.', and a list of fur coats with prices like 'Fur Lined Raincoats £895 £125'.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE November 6: His Excellency Mr Stan Soare was received in audience by The Queen this morning and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Socialist Republic of Romania in the Court of St James's.

Abergavony, the Right Hon Sir William Heselonde and Lieutenant-Colonel John Brewer upon relinquishing command of the 2nd Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel Sandy McNeil upon assuming command.

Goorkhas (The Sirmoor Rifles) this morning received Lieutenant-Colonel John Brewer upon relinquishing command of the 2nd Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel Sandy McNeil upon assuming command.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S.D. Bainbridge and Miss J.M. Buckingham. The engagement is announced between Stephen Bainbridge, B.D.S., son of Mr and Mrs A.A. Bainbridge, of Slad, Gloucestershire, and Julie, daughter of Mr and Mrs M.F. Buckingham, of Kidlington, Oxford.

OBITUARY MR HOWARD THOMAS

Creative impresario in British broadcasting

Mr Howard Thomas, CBE, creator of The Brains Trust, and a leading figure in the development of independent television, died yesterday at the age of 77.



Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visiting the field of remembrance at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday.

Painting's origins inspire bidders

A painting which carried an estimate of \$6,000-\$8,000 was sold for \$231,000 (£154,000) at Sotheby's in New York on Wednesday.

Dinners British Paediatric Association Professor John Forfar, President of the British Paediatric Association, presided at a dinner held last night at the Atheneum Club.

Webster and Company, international claims agents for Marine Underwriters. Among the guests, many whom were from overseas, were:

Birthdays today Air Marshal Sir John Donald, 59; Sir John Egan, 47; the Rev Professor Christopher Evans, 77; Mr Timmy Flint, 34; Dr Billy Graham, 68; Mrs Lucinda Green, 33; Lord Greenhill of Harrow, 73; Admiral Sir Nicholas Hunt, 56; Dame Gwyneth Jones, 50; Professor Sir Edmund Leach, 76; Professor K. Lorenz, 83; Mr Wolf Mankowitz, 62; Sir Robert Micklethwait, QC, 84; Sir John Muir, 76; Miss Ruth Pitter, 89; Dame Joan Sutherland, 60; Dame Jean Taylor, 70; Baroness White, 77.

Prince Georg of Denmark A service of thanksgiving for the life of Prince Georg of Denmark will be held in Westminster Abbey at 5 pm on Monday, December 1, 1968.

White Dove Ball The White Dove Ball in aid of The Royal Marsden Hospital Cancer Fund will be held on Wednesday, December 3, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1.

Luncheons HM Government Baroness Young, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon held at Lancaster House in honour of Miss Sissel Ronbeck, Norwegian Minister of Environment.

Advertisement for Philips SL*18D and SL*18 light bulbs. The ad features two large light bulbs, one labeled SL*18D and the other SL*18. Below the bulbs, the text reads: 'PHILIPS SL*18D New white-base super long life bulbs'. At the bottom, it says: 'PHILIPS SL*18'.

Advertisement for Philips light bulbs. The text reads: 'NOW 6000 hours of light for one-quarter the electricity They directly replace ordinary light bulbs'. It lists various bulb types: 'SL*9 replaces 40W bulb, SL*13 replaces 60W bulb, SL*18 replaces 75W bulb, SL*25 replaces 100W bulb, SL*18D globe lamp - all the benefits of SL* technology in a new modern shape. PHILIPS The World's No. 1 Lightmaker bringing you the Best of Better Lighting'.

Service Dinner 2nd Punjab Regiment Lieutenant-General Sir John Worsley presided at the annual dinner of the 2nd Punjab Regiment Officers' Association held last night at the Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall.

Memorial services General Sir Timothy Crassey, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Anglian Regiment, was represented by Lieutenant Colonel Sir Martin Gilliat, Prince Margaret, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, who was represented by Major-General Sir David Thorne and Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief.

Viscount Bearded A service of thanksgiving for the life of Viscount Bearded was held at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, St John's Wood, on Wednesday, Rabbi Julia Wulberger officiated. Mr Robert Waley-Cohen, son-in-law, read a prayer, Viscount Bearded, brother, read Psalm 15, and Mr Anthony Mathereson gave an address. Among those present were:

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM

There shall none of us words be prepared to write for the birth which I have God.
October 12 1926

BIRTHS

ABRAMS - On 5th October 1986, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Vivian (nee Cawston) and Nicholas, a son, Jack, a brother for David William, Anthony and Gail, a son, Christopher John.

BOWEN - On 4th November, to Deborah (nee Sturrock) and Gareth, a son, Alexander David.

CLAIR - On October 22nd, to Helena (nee Taylor) and Marco de Gloria, a son, Portugal, son, a son.

SCELSBY-WEAVER - On October 27, to Liz (nee Harding) and John, a son, Benedict, a brother for Harry, Everett, On October 10th to Barbara (nee Rotherham) and John, a son, Nicholas, a brother for Charles and Sophie.

GARDNER - On November 3, to Joan (nee Greenfield) and Anthony, a son, Nicholas, a brother for Charles and Sophie.

BLASE - On November 3rd, to Leonie (nee Hamilton) and John, a son, Alexander Charles Dundas.

BALFOUR-TURNER - On 8th November, to Marion (nee Glasgow) and Malcolm, a son, James, a son, Malcolm, a son.

BAIRN - On Monday November 7, to Deborah and Nigel, a son, Robert Charles.

REWIS - On November 5th, to Linda (nee St. Mary's) and Paul, a son, James Andrew.

REWIS - On November 5th, to Linda (nee St. Mary's) and Paul, a son, James Andrew.

METCALF - On 31st November 1986, to John (nee St. Mary's) and Paul, a son, James Andrew.

WATSON - On October 28th 1986, to Miriam (nee Coady) and John, a son, James Andrew.

NEWMAN - On October 28th 1986, to Miriam (nee Coady) and John, a son, James Andrew.

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DE ROBERTSLEY - On 23rd October, deceased at the Maison des Aveugles in the High Street, London, Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur, Cris de Carriere. His partner and granddaughters leaving a Mass said by the Rev. John Charles-Roux on Wednesday 29th, at 11.15 a.m. at St. Andrew's Church, 23, place.

DE ROBERTSLEY - On November 6th, succeeded much loved Doctor, Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur, Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur, Cris de Carriere. His partner and granddaughters leaving a Mass said by the Rev. John Charles-Roux on Wednesday 29th, at 11.15 a.m. at St. Andrew's Church, 23, place.

ROBERTSLEY - On November 6th, in the love of the late Mrs. Elizabeth, Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur, Cris de Carriere. His partner and granddaughters leaving a Mass said by the Rev. John Charles-Roux on Wednesday 29th, at 11.15 a.m. at St. Andrew's Church, 23, place.

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Science report

Ozone loss cancer fear

Depletion of atmospheric ozone could mean more than double the incidence of skin cancer and the cancer death rate among Americans, according to the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The agency says that the change in the protective layer of ozone could mean more than double the incidence of skin cancer and the cancer death rate among Americans, according to the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

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TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table with columns: First Dealings, Last Dealings, Last Declaration, For Settlement. Lists various stock options and their prices.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table showing Sterling Spot and Exchange Rates for various currencies including New York, Brussels, Copenhagen, Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Milan, Paris, Stockholm, Tokyo, Zurich.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table showing Sterling Rates for various currencies like Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, U.A.E., and Venezuela.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table showing Dollar Spot Rates for various countries including Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, U.A.E., and Venezuela.

COMPANY NEWS

ARBUTHNOT JAPAN GROWTH FUND: Dividend 0.25p (same) for the year to September 30. Gross revenue £13.618 (£15,723), operating expenses £28,688 (£18,743), deficit for the year £15,070 (£3,015).

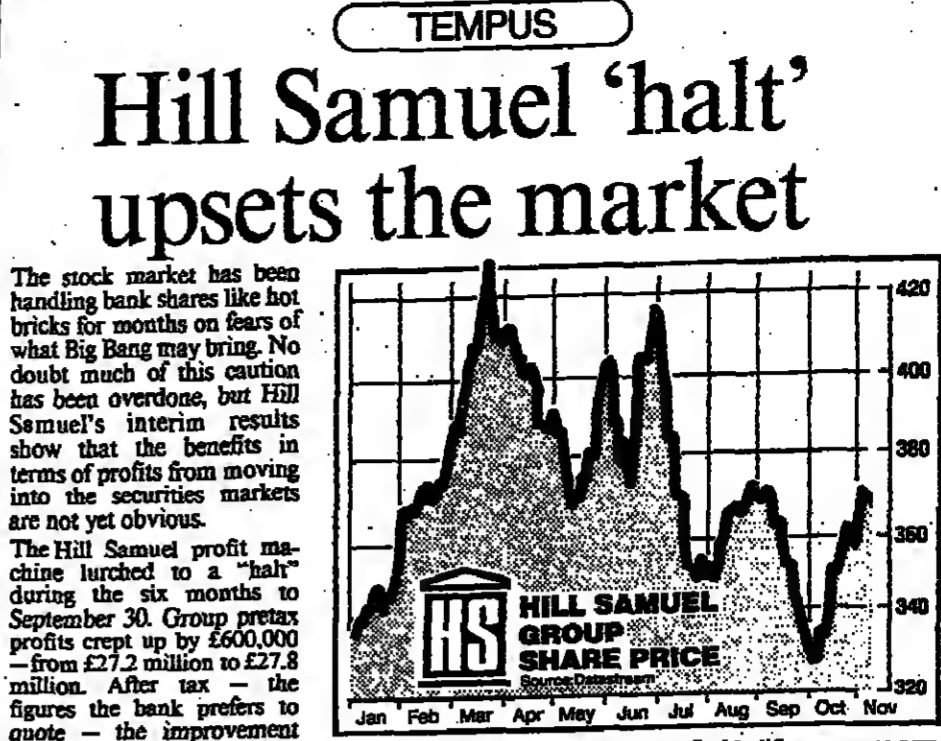
APPOINTMENTS

Raine Industries: Mr John H Bancroft takes over as financial director. J&J Crombie: Mr Robin Edwards becomes sales and marketing director.

TEMPUS

Hill Samuel 'halt' upsets the market

The stock market has been handing bank shares like hot bricks for months on fears of what Big Bang may bring. No doubt much of this caution has been overdone, but Hill Samuel's interim results show that the benefits in terms of profits from moving into the securities markets are not yet obvious.



Electrocomponents

At long last, Electrocomponents has mastered the art of issuing cautious statements about its prospects without depressing the market. Yesterday's interim announcement carried a warning that market conditions were far from buoyant, but the expectation of Mr Tony Chubb, chairman, of further progress during the second half carried the share price up 16p to 369p.

Advertisement for N M Rothschild & Sons Limited. Includes the company logo, name, and list of brokers and investors such as Atlantic Assets Trust PLC, British Telecom Staff Superannuation Scheme, etc.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing London Financial Futures for various contracts like Three Month Sterling, Dec 30, Mar 27, Jun 27, Sep 27, Dec 27, Mar 27, Jun 27, Sep 27, Dec 27.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table showing Money Markets and Gold rates for various currencies and gold prices.

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing recent issues of various companies including Mecca Leisure, Miller & Sarinhouse, Newsline, etc.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table listing London Traded Options for various companies like Allied Lyons, BP, City of London, etc., with columns for Series, Call, Put, and prices.

Advertisement for electrocomponents plc. Includes the company logo, 'Interim Results 30 September 1986', trading results and prospects, and financial data table.

BASE LENDING RATES

Table showing Base Lending Rates for various banks and currencies like ABN, Adam & Company, BCCI, etc.

INVITATION TO TENDER

Invitation to tender for Video-Tape Transfer Service for Special Broadcasting Service (Australia). Includes details of the service and contact information for TVS International.

Share 150

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust information, including columns for fund names, managers, and performance metrics. The table is organized into several sections: 'UNIT TRUST MANAGERS', 'UNIT TRUSTS', 'INVESTMENT TRUSTS', 'FINANCIAL TRUSTS', and 'COMMODITIES'. Each section lists various funds and their associated data points.

Table titled 'UNLISTED SECURITIES' and 'INVESTMENT TRUSTS'. It contains detailed data for various securities and investment trusts, including columns for company names, prices, and other financial indicators. The 'UNLISTED SECURITIES' section is on the left, and the 'INVESTMENT TRUSTS' section is on the right.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 3pm. Yield, change and P/E are calculated on the middle price.

The prices in this section refer to Wednesday's trading.
* Ex dividend, c. Cum dividend, k. Cum stock split, v. Ex stock split, a. Ex all (any two or more of above), b. Ex all (any two or more of above), d. Ex all (any two or more of above), e. Ex all (any two or more of above), f. Ex all (any two or more of above), g. Ex all (any two or more of above), h. Ex all (any two or more of above), i. Ex all (any two or more of above), j. Ex all (any two or more of above), k. Ex all (any two or more of above), l. Ex all (any two or more of above), m. Ex all (any two or more of above), n. Ex all (any two or more of above), o. Ex all (any two or more of above), p. Ex all (any two or more of above), q. Ex all (any two or more of above), r. Ex all (any two or more of above), s. Ex all (any two or more of above), t. Ex all (any two or more of above), u. Ex all (any two or more of above), v. Ex all (any two or more of above), w. Ex all (any two or more of above), x. Ex all (any two or more of above), y. Ex all (any two or more of above), z. Ex all (any two or more of above).

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE
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LONDON POTATO FUTURES
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LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Alfa Romeo polishes up the image

Far-reaching changes are in the wind at Alfa Romeo, the state-owned Italian manufacturer of sports cars which has lost its way in recent years but is still one of the proudest names in motoring.

Either giant would add the pragmatic approach borne of vast experience in world markets to the acknowledged but poorly directed talents of Alfa's brilliant engineering team. One thing is certain. Whoever wins will want to keep Alfa Romeo's name and distinctive approach to fast car design.

But it is of the changes taking place much nearer home that I want to write today. Two months ago I reported the shocking story of Mrs Serena Thomas of Hornsea, Hampshire who had been fighting since December 1984 to have her grievances redressed in the first place for a flawed Alfa Romeo 33 and later for an equally troublesome Giulietta. The main problem was with so many of the marque was excessive rusting.

I suggested that in view of the countless times both cars had been returned for respray and other rectification work the only way out appeared to be a financial settlement. Now Mrs Thomas has written to say: "Thank you for your interest and support. I am pleased to be able to say that because of your article on September 5 the problem has now been resolved. The dealership

has taken back the car and paid off the outstanding loan to Mercantile Credit. The only condition was that I bought another car from them. I now have an X-registered Volvo 345 and when I went to pick it up there was a large basket of flowers on the passenger seat - a very nice gesture on the part of the garage."

One of the biggest stumbling blocks facing Mrs Thomas in her battle with the change in ownership of Alfa Romeo GB which took place in April this year when the Italian company sold its subsidiary to the British group Tozer, Kemsley & Milbourn. Maurice Rourke, managing director of the new company, says with commendable honesty that market research at the time showed that motorists had a very poor opinion of Alfa cars. They said they were prone to rusting, unreliable and had a poor resale value.

The residual values problem was almost certainly caused by the excessive discounting which the old company employed to register cars. If you buy a cut price new car you get it at a price valuation when you resell it. Mr Rourke says he has put an end to registering cars and claims that as a result residual values are already improving. The latter will soon show up in trade figures available to the public. But a reputation for rusting and unreliability once acquired takes years to shake off as Lancia are still finding. Rourke insists that there is concrete proof of improvements in both these fields.

Too many times in recent years however Alfa GB executives have said the same and gone on to predict that the company would turn the corner and sales would climb again. Rourke will have none of that. By dropping discounting he admits that sales will fall from around 3,000 last year to 2,300 this year. He was only prepared to speculate on marginal increases over the next 18 months to around 3,000 with a target of 5,000 some three to four years hence. Even 5,000 will still be way below Alfa GB's peak of 13,000 sales in 1979.

When TKM took over it found that the dealer network was a mess. Today a single tier dealer system is being built up. There are about 30 open points to be filled in a network which will eventually number 130.

Finally as an example of the new company's awareness of consumer reaction I would quote the following. First deliveries of the new Alfa 75 reached Britain this summer. Along with other motoring writers I criticized the high pedal mountings which made operating the clutch extremely cumbersome. Engineers at Alfa's Dover headquarters built a mock-up with modified pedal positions and sent it to Milan for approval. They got it almost immediately. Future hand drive models - they were the only catalyst - will have the new angles when they leave the factory. If you already have an unmodified 75 your dealer will do the work free.

Porsche super power - with a little extra

The 2.5 litre four cylinder Porsche 944, with or without a turbo charger, is by far the company's biggest seller in Britain accounting for nearly half the Porsches sold here last year. Its popularity is well deserved. The cheaper 924 is an excellent sports coupe particularly now that it shares the same genuine Porsche engine as the 944 and not a thinly disguised Audi unit. But its road holding and handling is not in the same class as the superb 944.

Of course there are still those diehard Porsche followers who are scornful of all front engine Porsches like the 944 insisting that the 20-year-old rear engine Porsche

911 remains the only true product of the legendary Ferry Porsche and his son Ferry. The 911 has been fine honed year after year until today it represents the zenith of road going rear engine muscle car design but it is quirky to drive particularly in the wet. Get it wrong and the lightly loaded front develops a mind of its own.

It is also physically demanding with a heavy clutch and agricultural gear change. The ride is harsh and tiring. 911 owners readily admit these shortcomings but in a way that suggests they welcome them as a challenge to their skill as a driver.

The 944 is much more predictable and forgiving in its handling, more comfortable with a softer ride and altogether a more manageable car. That is not to suggest that it has no real claim to a place in the super car class. Without a turbo it will reach 60mph in 8.4 seconds and has a top speed of 137mph. With a turbo the acceleration is electrifying, passing 60mph in only 6.3 seconds and topping 150mph.

With that choice of perfor-



Porsche 944S: Smoother, but is it worth the extra?

mance already available it was at first difficult to understand when Porsche recently came out with a new four valves per cylinder version - a 944S - giving only marginally better performance than the normally aspirated 944L and at £23,997 costing an extra £1,445. The answer I discovered is that four valve technology combined with an optimized combustion chamber and a knock sensor regulator allows the new engine to run at maximum efficiency whether fitted with an anti-pollution exhaust gas catalytic converter or not. Most Porsches are sold in two markets: Germany where an increasing number of catalytic equipped cars are being

bought and the USA where they are compulsory. On the road you have to go looking for the advantage of the 16 "valves" over the standard engine. It is only when you get into the middle and upper rev ranges that the extra torque and power (up from 163bhp to 190bhp) makes its presence felt. The rev limiter has also been reset to permit a maximum of 6,800 rpm - up from 6,500rpm.

The overall effect is to make the car smoother through the gears but not appreciably so. In my view that is not sufficient to persuade me to spend the extra money but then if you are already forking out over £22,000 what does an extra £1,500 really matter?

CAR BUYERS' GUIDE

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LISTERS FOR QUATRO New Models

Continued on page 29

TENNIS Boys from Austria on way to the top

From Rex Bellamy Tennis Correspondent Airtwerp

Two teenagers called Horst Skoff and Thomas Muster have charged from the tennis wilderness into the top 30, which is where the money is. They are hardly household names, even in their native Austria. But it is frustrating for Britain...

Muster has beaten Ramesh Krishnan and Brad Gilbert to win a minimum of about £23,500 by reaching the last eight of the European Community Championship. True, Krishnan had just flown in from Hong Kong and Gilbert's mobility was inhibited by tennis-related injuries...

The Italian, who so admire the English game that they readily import its leading players, are astounded by the pace and stamina of the Austrian duo. In yesterday morning's Corriere dello Sport summed up the reaction: "Our game is too beautiful for the English". It is true. The assumption is not unreasonable...

Since it allows us to put foreign football on five only outside the English season, it has effectively stopped us altogether. Spain and Italy are the only leagues worth covering and the Spanish finish at the end of March and the Italian game is up on FA Cup Final day here...

On Wednesday evening there was a commensurate match in which "The Big Cat", Miloslav Mecir, beat the quick and crafty Paul McNamee. Mecir reached the last eight at Wimbledon and was runner-up for the United States championship...

Overseas associations remain puzzled by the fact that British tennis has so little to show for its series of huge handicaps from the game's most famous tournament. As I have pointed out before, Britain can make money out of tennis players but, demonstrably, cannot make tennis players out of money...

The fact remains that, by international standards, Britain's leading tennis players in the nation's game shop window - have become something of a joke. The LTA may (too slowly) be creating a climate for excellence. But nobody is excelling - and the responsibility for that must rest largely with the LTA...

The paradox of Wimbledon's record surplus is that it coincides with a year in which Britain sank to a rare nadir of failure in three team events. In a Davis Cup tie, Australia achieved a winning lead over Britain without conceding a set in the corresponding Federation Cup competition. Denmark, hardly formidable opponents, beat Britain in the first round; then, an American reserve team inflicted on Britain their heaviest Wimbledon Cup defeat at home for 34 years...

The Wimbledon surplus looks like financial aid for a disaster area. The Wimbledon surplus looks like financial aid for a disaster area. The Wimbledon surplus looks like financial aid for a disaster area.



Hand-to-hand combat: David Bryant (left), the old master of English bowls, and young Irishman, Rodney McCutcheon, signal their intentions at the CIS UK championships

FOOTBALL: FOREIGN LEAGUE SCREENINGS IMPAIRED BY FA INTERFERENCE

Sadly blind to a vision of beauty

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent Senior executives at ITV were so impressed by the FA's lack of interest that they considered taking legal action. That they were advised by their own lawyers to be "wary" is not surprising, for the FA's case appeared to be "watertight" and would be pointless and potentially expensive...

All glued to the box

Zurich (Reuters) - A television audience of 580 million watched the 1986 World Cup final between Argentina and West Germany in Mexico City on June 29. An aggregate total of 12,800 million people watched television coverage of the 52 matches in Mexico...

Scots aspiring to the aristocracy

By Hugh Taylor Rangers and Dundee United expect to meet formidable opposition when the draw for the third round of the UEFA Cup is made in Zurich today. Scotland's remaining representatives in European competition have performed with distinction but they realize that the clubs left in are comprised mainly of the elite, among them Barcelona, Inter Milan and Borussia Mönchengladbach...

A touch of irony as holders go out

A missed penalty proved influential in Bucharest, where European Cup holders Steaua, bowed out against Anderlecht, which was the only team to reach the trophy in Scville six months ago when Gavrilă Balint converted the decisive spot-kick in a shoot-out against Barcelona. But Balint, aged 22, missed from the spot early in the second half against the holders. 3-0 down from the first leg, they were doomed to failure despite Ladislav Boloni's 58th minute effort which inspired a late onslaught on the Belgian goal...

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Table listing various sports results including European Cup, Littlewoods Cup, Scottish Division, FA Trophy, and other international and domestic matches.

FOR THE RECORD

Table listing sports records for Basketball, Golf, Show Jumping, Ice Hockey, and Rackets.

RUGBY UNION

Play fair and fair play is the need

By Gerald Davies The sending off of Adrian Owen, the Bridgend captain, in the match against Bristol, is further demonstration of the referee's sympathy and - not to be interpreted as an expression of irony - shook Owen's hand before he departed. Neither of these actions could be thought to be the common response of an injured opponent in such circumstances...

With so many variables in the game they could quite easily get it wrong. The surprise is, in among all the odds, that they are in the right so often. With the rugby season in Wales having started in such an explosive fashion, with two court cases, it means that if the game is to remain a sport, it is a pity that the English public are not allowed to catch at least a final glimpse of his glorious career...

Value for money in Portugal

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson Ian Peck, master in charge at Bedford, reports a thoroughly enjoyable half-term visit to Portugal with the first game lost 6-0 to the hosts and the second a narrow win. Bedford found the opposition fast, strong and physical, but relatively naive tactically. The party was well looked after and back to the UK with a valuable visit to Portugal as a value for money and a good balance between a representative school tour and holiday atmosphere...

Captain Arica dropped from Turkey squad

Ankara (Reuters) - The Turkey captain, Erdogan Arica, said to be disheartened after their 4-0 European Championship qualifying defeat by Yugoslavia in the first leg of the group four tie against Northern Ireland in Izmir on Wednesday. The Turkish manager also omitted the forward, Erdal Keser, who was injured against Yugoslavia in Split. The midfield player, Yusuf Altintas, of Galatasaray, is to captain the side...

Graf chasing

New York (AFP) - The American, Martina Navratilova, and Steffi Graf of West Germany, occupy the leading positions in the women's tennis circuit points table. Navratilova has 1,000 points and Graf has 900 points.

BOWLS

The rebels trying to assassinate the King

With the exit from the tournament of the Scottish international, Wood and Watson, the average age of the quarter-finalists in the CIS United Kingdom singles championship at the Preston Guild Hall has dropped to 26 years - if you leave the astonishing David Bryant out of the reckoning. That is, of course, the very thing that his young challengers must not do. Bryant, 37, and well though the youngsters have to eliminate the old guard, they still have to find a way to assassinate the King...

The chief of the young rebels has already become a casualty. Richard Curtis, aged 19, a plodding, indefatigable professional from Edinburgh who won a silver medal in the Commonwealth Games, went out to Roy Cutts, an insurance assessor from Ipswich, who - at 33 - is now the second oldest man in the competition. England champion, Cutts, a compulsive gun-chucker, was opposed in the first quarter-final yesterday by a pale, slim Welshman, aged 26, a pale, slim Welshman, aged 26, a pale, slim Welshman, aged 26...

Steve Rees is the British junior champion, but will be unable to defend his title next year as he has reached the advanced age of 26. Looking more like an archery darts player than a bowler, he offers a sharp visual contrast to the lean and hungry appearance of his Swannese colleague. Like many bowmen, he has a fine and delicate touch, and his skill - and patience - make him a consistent and dangerous player. Today he plays Tony Allcock, whose charisma and grace, as well as his consummate skill, are a major feature in the development of bowls' new image...

Allcock has been playing since he was a toddler and is the perfect example of how bowls should be played in families. His mother, Joan, a fine English international player, who recently died, gave birth between two rounds of the club pairs championship - which she went on to win. Her offspring was Anthony Allcock, who was first capped at 19; he followed up his world focus win in 1984 with successes in the world indoor pairs and singles championships during the past 12 months. Bowls is a family concern for David Corhill, too. This 26-year-old bowler, whose father, David Corhill senior, who is the Irish national coach, in his work with paraplegic bowlers. Avid, angular and ambitious, Corhill joined the bowls superstars when he was the Liverpool Victoria Superbowl last month...

His Irish colleague, Rod McKelvey, is unemployed and single. He spends a lot of his time playing bowls, and was the British junior champion four years ago. He is still only 23. Bob Hitchin is a glasshouse pot-maker, a crown green bowler, and keen enough to delay his honeymoon so that he could play in this event. He is 28. RESULTS: Second round: R McCutcheon (19) vs J Watson (30), 7-4, 0-7, 0-7, 7-3.

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SPORT

Ferguson lined up for United

Scot in shoes of the Big Man

By Hugh Taylor
Sharp is the word for Alex Ferguson. There can be little argument that this Jock the Lad from Glasgow's Govan is among the outstanding managers in Britain today.

The mantle of Jock Stein the motivator has fallen on Ferguson. Like the famed Big Man of Celtic, Ferguson has presence. Footballers snap to attention when he tells them what he wants - and woe betide anyone that falls out of line.

Dapper, looking fit enough still to be playing, the former Rangers inside forward spells out to his players a modern gospel of football tactics, which include supreme fitness.

Ferguson, who also managed St Mirren, can be temperamental has a quick temper does not suffer fools or inquisitive sports reporters gladly, is a workaholic and sometimes as when he assumed the Scotland job as well as that of Aberdeen, he takes on too much for his own good.

McNeill's sympathy
Billy McNeill, the Aston Villa manager who was Ron Atkinson's opposite number at Manchester City for three years, yesterday expressed sympathy for the departed Old Trafford manager.

He said: "I feel Ron has been unlucky. He had very good players, but unfortunately he did not have anything like maximum use of them this season. "I don't care what team it is, if you pick up injuries then things are difficult for a manager. And of course it's even worse at Old Trafford."

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Alex Ferguson, who led Scotland during the World Cup in Mexico, is expected to become the next manager of Manchester United following the dismissal yesterday of Ron Atkinson. Martin Edwards, the chairman, was travelling to Aberdeen last night to talk to Ferguson after the Scottish Premier Division club had given their permission.

The Old Trafford board has cast envious eyes north ever since Ferguson led Aberdeen to Victory in the Cup Winners' Cup final three years ago. He is a man of stature, commanding great respect from those around him.

This season Archie Knox has returned from Dundee to share team duties with Ferguson while he himself has also become a director on the club's board. This season's first round elimination from the Cup Winners' Cup was a bitter disappointment.

More football on page 34
that they would not poach each other's managers while they were under contract meant that United were always likely to look outside the League for a replacement.

United's recent managers
Ron Atkinson's tragedy, if there is any tragedy in his dismissal by Manchester United, is that in his time as the club's manager he did not have the courage, in Arthur Miller's aphorism, to let himself be known.

High flyer who toppled off the tightrope
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Stairway to the Red Devils
Ron Atkinson, was born on March 18, 1939 in Liverpool. After being rejected by Wolves and Aston Villa, he established himself as a wing half at Southern League, Oxford United, just before the club joined the Football League in 1962.

By Clive White

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to receive about £100,000 in compensation, said: "Obviously I'm a bit disappointed. Things have gone against us so I suppose it was inevitable this would eventually happen. Every managerial position has its problems, but here they are magnified because United are the biggest club in Britain and the best known in the world."

More football on page 34
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Bowing out: Ron Atkinson at Old Trafford yesterday after his dismissal

Men of Harlech steal a march

By David Hands Rugby Correspondent

Most of those who view next year's inaugural rugby World Cup will do so via television. The rights are still being negotiated in some parts of the world, notably North America, but agreements have been concluded with the BBC in Britain, who hope to show every try in the tournament (by inference, parts of every game played), with New Zealand television who hope to put out every match live, and with two companies in Japan.

Viewers who have come to regard the BBC as the natural medium for televised rugby will watch the difference in technique and commentary with interest. The four home unions, especially Wales, will watch with some concern the effect such a programming has on crowds at the gate-taking clubs.

Project floated six weeks ago

It is significant that the six companies who have agreed to take pictures from French television - RTV, Wales, HTV, West, TSW, Grampian, STV and Ulster - are all in areas with either a natural affinity with the game, or recent success, or both. If any of the big four of the independent companies, Yorkshire, Granada, Central and Thames, could be lured into involvement it would reduce costs to each independent company considerably.

The project was floated as little as six weeks ago by John Roberts, producer and director of RTV Wales's sports department. "It started, me during the summer that, with the World Cup coming up, we should be looking to get as much action from major international all over the world as we could," he said. So HTV showed during the summer film of France in Australasia as well as Wales in Fiji and Western Samoa, the latter game bringing a large audience considering the lack of advance publicity.

That was further fuel which suggested there was a big audience waiting to see international rugby. I was aware of the New Zealanders' games in Toulouse and Nantes and found they were available to us. Such an option is not open to the BBC who are midway through a three-year agreement drawn up with the television committee representing the four home nations, which limits to 10 minutes (with no advance publicity) the amount of live rugby which can be shown on a Saturday afternoon apart from Five Nations Championship games.

Protecting the gates of clubs

HTV could have accepted the Eurovision version of the Toulouse match, complete with commentary from a New Zealand, but have decided to send their own team of Bob Symonds and Gerald Davies, plus a Welsh language team including Gareth Edwards, whose contract with the BBC has been concluded.

"I would like to see independent television as a whole bid for the contract next time it is decided by the four home nations," Mr Roberts said. ITV policy is to sport over the last couple of years has been to go for live and exclusive coverage but there has been little interest expressed on either side for challenging the BBC's hold on rugby union, even if the renewal of each contract between the corporation and the home unions has always been the subject of hard-headed discussion.

"There is interest in rugby union but it's not big ratings," an ITV spokesman said yesterday. "If you look at ITV sports ratings when we are up against a Rugby Union international, our sport normally beats the Rugby Union side. But if there were the possibility of a Rugby Union contract around to be discussed, obviously we would discuss it."

The concern of the unions has always been to protect the gates of clubs. The Welsh Rugby Union have suggested that tomorrow's programme could "decimate" gates; it will be instructive to see how significant the effect is or whether the average rugby follower enjoys parochial first-hand entertainment rather than a game between two countries from overseas.

SQUASH RACKETS

Robertson is troubled by youngster

Chris Robertson, normally a quicksilver player of inventive court presence, took an one-and-a-half hours to dismiss Umar Hyat Khan, a young Pakistani eight places behind his own 15th world ranking, at the World Open championship in Toulouse yesterday (Colin McQuillan writes).

The 21-year-old Australian, who won 3-9, 9-3, 9-2, 9-7, needs the winner of today's first round clash between British champion Philip Kenyon and junior world champion Jansher Khan, aged 17, crushed Welshman Adrian Davies to qualify.

Englishmen Bryan Beeson and Robert Graham also line up in the first round today after finishing in the top eight in the qualifying tournament, but Simon Taylor and Zain Saleh fell at the last hurdle.

BADMINTON

Frost defeats Yu for place in semi-finals

Indonesia (AFP) - Morten Frost again got the better of Shanghai-born Sze Yu of Australia in a closely-fought game in Bandung yesterday to ensure himself a place in the World Cup semi-finals.

Frost, the England-based Dane, won 18-15, 15-9 to follow up the straight sets win over Sze which brought him the British Masters title for the third year in a row under a fortnight ago.

Frost will face Chinese Yang Yang in the semi-finals to be played off in Jakarta. WOMEN'S SINGLES: Group One: H Yee (197) 15-11, 15-10; Group Two: M Frost (190) 15-9, 15-13; Group Three: M Frost (190) 15-9, 15-13; Group Four: Sze Yu (190) 15-9, 15-13; Group Five: Sze Yu (190) 15-9, 15-13; Group Six: Sze Yu (190) 15-9, 15-13; Group Seven: Sze Yu (190) 15-9, 15-13; Group Eight: Sze Yu (190) 15-9, 15-13; Group Nine: Sze Yu (190) 15-9, 15-13; Group Ten: Sze Yu (190) 15-9, 15-13.

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